FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BAHRAIN

KING HUSAYN ARRIVES, MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

JN011514Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 1 October--His Majesty King Husayn arrived here this evening on a 1-day visit to Bahrain as part of his tour of several Arab states.

His majesty the king was received by His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, minister of defense; several ministers; senior Bahraini officials and the ambassadors accredited to Bahrain.

King Husayn left Kuwait earlier today following a brief visit during which he held talks with His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, and high-ranking Kuwaiti officials on the latest developments of the Middle East situation.

Leaves for Doha

JN020918Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0910 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 2 October--His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan left Manama for Doha this morning following a 1-day visit to Bahrain. While in Bahrain, His Majesty King Husayn had talks with Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah on the latest developments in the Arab situation and on the relations between the two countries.

His majesty was seen off by the amir of Bahrain, the prime minister, the crown prince and high-ranking Bahraini officials.

AMIR RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT AS-SADAT

JN010956Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0940 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 1 October--His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a message from Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. The message was conveyed by Egyptian Ambassador to Bahrain Muhammad 'Ali ad-Dasuqi when he was received by his highness the amir of Bahrain this morning.

Mr ad-Dasuqi stated to the GULF NEWS AGENCY that the message deals with the results and resolutions of the Camp David conference.

KUWAIT

KING HUSAYN ARRIVES TO CONFER WITH AMIR

LD011025Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived at Kuwait International Airport at about 1230 today on a brief visit to Kuwait for talks with his brother, his majesty the amir of Kuwait, dealing with the current Arab situation and bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries, as well as other matters of common interest.

His highness the amir of Kuwait headed those who were at hand to welcome His Majesty King Husayn on his arrival at the airport. The prime minister and crown prince were also there to welcome the king, as were senior state officials.

His majesty is accompanied by a delegation consisting of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Cabinet ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, Royal Court Minister 'Amir Khammash, Education Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Dr 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali and a number of advisers.

QATAR

AMIR RECEIVES LETTER FROM PRESIDENT AS-SADAT

NC011647Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Doha, 1 October--Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a letter from his brother, his excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. The letter was handed by Egyptian Ambassador to Qatar Salih Zaghlul when he was received by his highness the amir this evening.

Following the meeting, the Egyptian ambassador told QNA that within the framework of the brotherhood between his highness the amir and President as-Sadat and the strong friendship between Qatar and Egypt, and out of the joint commitment to the common national interest, this letter analyzes and explains the results of the Camp David conference. It concerns the general framework for the basis of negotiations in the future for the purpose of the conclusion of a final settlement of the Middle East crisis.

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI-JORDANIAN TALKS BEGIN IN JIDDA

LD302002Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1910 GMT 30 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 30 Sep, SNA--Official Saudi-Jordanian talks began at 2115 at Al-Hamrah Palace in Jidda, under the cochairmanship of King Husayn of Jordan and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince.

SNA has learned that King Husayn and His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz have reviewed, during their talks, a number of Arab, Islamic and international issues. The talks have particularly and extensively covered the current situation in the Middle East, relations between Saudi Arabia and Jordan and ways to further strengthen and consolidate these relations.

Taking part in the talks on the Jordanian side were Prime Minister Mudar Badran; 'Amir Khammash, head of the royal cabinet; and Dr 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali, minister of state for cabinet affairs and education. On the Saudi side, participants included Mutib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, minister of public works and housing and minister accompanying the great guest; Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mansuri, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry for political affairs; and Shaykh Ibrahim as-Sultan, Saudi ambassador to Amman.

King Husayn and the accompanying delegation are due to leave Jidda on Sunday for Kuwait in line with his current tour to a number of Arab countries.

Husayn Departs

LD010940Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0926 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpt] Jidda, 1 Oct 78, SNA--His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan left Jidda for Kuwait at 1045 today within the framework of a tour of the region. He was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the viceroy and crown prince, and by a number of amirs and ministers.

CROWN PRINCE RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM AS-SADAT

LD011922Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, today received a message from Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat.

The SAUDI NEWS AGENCY has learned that the message, which was delivered to His Royal Highness Prince Fahd by a personal envoy of the Egyptian president, deals with the recent developments in the Middle East area.

MINISTER PRAISES U.S. ECONOMIC MEASURES

LD291524Y London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29, 30 Sep 78 pp 1, 2 LD

[Text] Finance Minister Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl has expressed his absolute support for the plans of President Jimmy Carter's administration to support the dollar. He stressed the Saudi Arabia has no intention of abandoning the dollar as the unit for pricing and selling oil.

Shaykh Aba al-Khayl, who has been attending the annual joint meeting of the World Bank and IMF, said in an exclusive interview with ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the U.S. Government is quite serious about controlling inflation and implementing its strategy of strengthening the dollar, and he expressed his pleasure at the improvement of U.S. trade figures last August.

The deficit in the U.S. trade balance last month dropped to $1.6 billion because of the great increase in U.S. exports in comparison with July, when it stood at $2.6 billion.

Shaykh Aba al-Khayl, after noting that the U.S. trade deficit in June was the same as in August, said that there was reason for greater optimism. The minister highly praised President Carter's "very strong speech" at the joint meeting of the World Bank and the IMF in which he set out a new plan for activating U.S. exports and reducing oil imports.

Shaykh Aba al-Khayl also said that he was pleased by the Senate's approval of the natural gas bill, adding that all these are encouraging factors and "we hope they will be appropriately reflected on the market."

He affirmed that Saudi Arabia's attitude toward the use of the dollar as the currency for pricing and selling oil has not changed. He also said that Saudi Arabia supports the energy program proposed by Carter.

He added: "In the short term, Carter's plan will be useful for improving the balance of payment situation, whereas in the long term it will also be useful for saving energy in the whole world."

Commenting on Saudi Arabia's joining the IMF Executive Council, he said that his country expects to play a dual role in the fund's activities.

First, within the fund, the kingdom will seek to strengthen the IMF's role in the world monetary system.

Second, the kingdom will try to represent the interests of the developing countries.

He added: "We want to see all the developing countries playing a positive role in the world financial system and, at the same time, receive the full support of this international establishment. On our part we will act as a developing country."

He said: "The general increase in the IMF quota by 50 percent is very important for strengthening the fund, which, consequently, will be able to increase its aid to developing countries."

In addition to this general increase, an optional increase was granted to 11 countries, including Saudi Arabia. Shaykh Aba al-Khayl said that the kingdom's increase is insufficient. "It is very small in proportion to our financial position, but we accept it as evidence of cooperation," he said.

He added: A recent important achievement by the fund was the allocation of 4 billion special withdrawal units for the next 3 years. Saudi Arabia, the finance minister said, is not participating in the program of the IMF special withdrawal rights at present, "but we are now considering the idea."

MINISTER DEPARTS FOR CONFERENCE IN BAGHDAD

LD011436Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1350 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 1 October, SNA--Amir Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of the interior, left At-Ta'if for Baghdad at 1600 today to head the Saudi Arabian delegation to the second conference of Arab interior ministers to be held in Baghdad tomorrow, Monday.

The conference will discuss increasing cooperation among the Arab countries in combating crime. The conference will also discuss the phenomenon of the decreasing demand for police jobs.

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD SCORES CARTER'S POLICY ON LEBANON

JN300943Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 September--The Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD today condemns the U.S. initiative on Lebanon. It says that this initiative raises doubts in Arab minds because it is incompatible with the pan-Arab aspirations of the Arab people.

In its comment the paper says that stability in the Arab area has been lacking ever since U.S. initiatives began in the area. This, the paper adds, makes Carter's initiative toward Lebanon cause for reservations rather than hope.

AL-ITTIHAD says: Unfortunately the U.S. initiative toward Lebanon painfully shows Arab inability. It says that Carter believes that he has scored a victory in Camp David and that he now wants to score another victory in Lebanon.

SHARJAH DENIES REPORTS OF NEW OIL DISCOVERY

JN011825Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Sharjah, 1 October--A responsible source at the Oil Department in Sharjah Emirate has denied reports disseminated by a foreign company that offshore oil has been discovered there. The source affirmed to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that the average oil production has not been changed since last year but that this average will increase in the future in view of the new investments of the oil companies which will develop the existing oil wells and dig new wells.

YEMEN--PDRY

PRESIDENT SENDS GREETINGS TO HUA KUO-FENG

LD011541Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Presidential Council and Council of Ministers, has sent a congratulatory cable to the premier of the State Council of the PRC, Hua Kuo-feng, on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the founding of the PRC.

He said in the cable: In my own name and on behalf of the people and government of the PDRY, it gives me pleasure to convey to you personally and to the friendly people of China our warm congratulations on this occasion. We wish you personally abundant health and happiness, and to the friendly people of China progress and prosperity, and we express to you our confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will flourish and grow stronger to the benefit of the peoples of our two friendly countries.

YEMEN--YAR

UAE FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION LEAVES SAN'A'

JN291347Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[Text] The UAE delegation under Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qurwan left San'a' International Airport at noon today aboard a private plane at the end of a short visit to the YAR. The delegation conveyed a letter to President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from his brother Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, when President Salih received Al-Qurwan yesterday evening.

The delegation was seen off at San'a' airport by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ahmad Haydar, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and the members of the UAE Embassy staff in San'a'.

BRIEFS

ROC OFFICIAL IN RIYADH--Riyadh--[name indistinct] Chinese deputy minister of education this morning arrived in Riyadh, heading his country's delegation to the meetings of the joint Saudi-Chinese Committee for Cultural Relations. [Excerpt] [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0600 GMT 30 Sep 78 LD]

SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO NEPAL--Jidda, 1 October--Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Bangladesh Shaykh Fu'ad al-Khatib next Friday will submit his credentials as non-resident ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Nepal, where he is due to arrive on Wednesday. [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1345 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD]

SUDANESE, IRAQ AMBASSADORS' CREDENTIALS--Abu Dhabi, 1 October--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nu'aymi this morning received a copy of the credentials of Sulayman Bavikar, new Sudanese ambassador and plenipotentiary to the UAE. Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nu'aymi also received the new Iraqi ambassador to the UAE. During the meeting, a discussion was held on bilateral relations, the means to further develop these relations and the current Arab situation. [Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN]

BUTRUS GHALI DISCUSSES UN ROLE IN PEACE TALKS

NC010918Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 October--The minister of state for foreign affairs and deputy foreign minister, Butrus Ghali, has shed additional light on the Camp David agreements and documents. He said that the Middle East peace efforts have proceeded along a specific path.

In an interview with ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine scheduled to be published tomorrow, Dr Butrus Ghali says that the first step in the peace effort is represented by the general principles mentioned in Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967. The second step is represented by the negotiations concerning the implementation of these principles. This comes within the framework of the two documents issued at Camp David now that the Israeli Knesset has approved the resolution calling for the removal of the settlements.

Dr Butrus Ghali says that the first document deals with the general principles for a peaceful solution with all the Arab countries on all levels, and that for this reason the document mentions the situation in Syria, the West Bank, Lebanon and Egypt.

Dr Butrus Ghali adds that the second document stems from the first document, which is considered the main document. The principles in the first document constitute a basis for an overall peace action. He adds that should Syria and Jordan make an initiative similar to Egypt's, a second document will automatically emanate from the first document, as was the case with the second document dealing with the framework for a peace agreement with Egypt. In all cases, the group of bilateral agreements between Israel and the Arab countries will be linked to the first document, which is the main document.

Dr Butrus Ghali adds that according to Article 5 of the first document, he will ask the Security Council, in the event of a dialog starting between the Arab states and Israel on the implementation of the first document, to guarantee the bilateral agreements, which will represent a comprehensive solution. He will also ask the Security Council permanent members--the five big states--to (?guarantee) the implementation of the bilateral agreements. Thus, the five big states in the Security Council, including the Soviet Union, will be partners in the final guarantees for the implementation of the bilateral agreements stemming from the first document.

He says: When all the peace negotiations are over, we will ask the international community, represented by the United Nations, to participate in a final document for the final solution of the Middle East crisis.

Dr Butrus Ghali emphasizes that the UN Security Council is a basic partner and a direct party in several respects to the peaceful solution in all its phases:

1. In its (?preamble), the first document is inspired by the principles and resolutions of the United Nations.

2. The UN forces which will be stationed in specific positions are (?provided for) in the second document.

3. [Words indistinct] which will ask the five big states in the final phases to guarantee the comprehensive and lasting solution. As I have said, the Camp David documents are a framework of principles and these principles are the provisions of Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967 and Resolution 338 [words indistinct].

The minister of state for foreign affiars says that the United States has a special role in view of its relationship with the states which are parties to the dispute on the one hand and in view of its repeated initiatives, since the time of Secretary of State Rogers, to solve the issue, on the other. Therefore, the U.S. role as a full partner will continue through all the coming phases until the final solution is reached.

He adds: However, the international community as a whole is in the picture. Indeed, there is nothing to prevent the Geneva conference from convening in the final phases as a culmination of the comprehensive and lasting solution after the bilateral agreements are reached within the framework of the first Camp David document.

The minister of state for foreign affairs says that the Middle East crisis is extremely complicated on the political level. There is the war in Lebanon and the problem of the refugees of 1948 and after 1967, and there are the principal issues and the Palestinian issue. Therefore, the participation of the international community--the friendly states and the big powers--in the conference is important.

Dr Butrus Ghali concludes his statement by saying that special (?letters are being prepared) for the friendly states on all the details of the situation and the documents. It suffices at present to [word indistinct] letters because the coming months are going to be decisive, requiring intensive work and negotiations on the implementation of the (?second) document on the framework of principles [words indistinct] after the Knesset's approval of the decision to remove the settlements.

AL-AHRAM: AS-SADAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM CARTER

NC2908l4Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0726 GMT 29 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 September--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that U.S. President Carter has sent a message to President Anwar as-Sadat through U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts, concerning future moves for the achievement of peace in the Middle East in light of the Camp David conference.

The paper says that the message contained three points. They are:

1. The results of the U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's visits to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

2. Presient Carter's position on the exchange of letters with Israel regarding the building of two bases in the Negev, and the connection between the exchange of letters on this U.S. commitment and the need for Israel to declare its position on the settlements in the West Bank.

3. The U.S. commitment with regard to the next stage and the need for the United States to participate in all future political meetings to implement the contents of the two Camp David agreements, with regard both to the general framework for peace and the Egyptian-Israeli agreement.

The paper points out that President as-Sadat's meeting yesterday with the U.S. ambassador in Cairo dealt with the results of the voting in the Israeli Knesset, which approved the removal of the Israeli settlements from Sinai. It also dealt with the political and military meetings, which will begin immediately after the Hebrew new year holidays. The paper adds that the negotiations will begin in Cairo under UN auspices and with the participation of the United States. These preparatory negotiations will be followed by detailed negotiations, the venue of which has not yet been announced, although Ismailia, Suez, Rafah and Beersheba are among the proposed places.

AL-AHRAM says that the agenda of the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations includes the details of the first Israeli withdrawal. This includes determining the final line and the positions and installations which will be handed over, the dates on which they will be handed over and the formation of committees to hand over and receive these positions and installations.

The agenda also includes agreement on the new positions of the UN Emergency Forces, since the Israeli forces will be withdrawing east of the positions in which the UN Emergency Forces are presently stationed in the buffer zone between Egypt and Israel. The agenda also includes agreement on the locations of the early warning stations and the demilitarized zones to replace the Umm Khushayb stations, which will be within the area of the first withdrawal.

The agenda of the Egyptian-Israeli talks will also include the return of Egyptian administration to the areas from which Israel will withdraw and agreement on the plan of action for the main committee and the need to set up additional subcommittees to discuss and supervise the handing over of military camps and installations. The agenda also includes agreement on the method and dates for handing over the oil wells and other civilian positions to Egypt and on the extent of the need to form civilian and administrative committees to assume the responsibility of receiving and listing the property.

The meetings are scheduled to take place on political and military levels. Independent political committees will be formed to discuss the legal and procedural aspects, and military committees to discuss and implement the necessary military measures.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS AGENDA OF ATHERTON-AS-SADAT TALKS

NC3007407 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 30 September--AL-AHRAM reports today that President Anwar as-Sadat will receive U.S. Middle East roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton this morning to discuss the next steps to achieve peace in the Middle East, whether with regard to the agreement between Egypt and Israel or the conditions for the establishment of complete self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

The paper says that Atherton's talks in Cairo will deal with the following:

1. Fixing the date and venue for the political and military discussions on the grounds that the Jewish new year holidays end on Wednesday, 11 October, after which the political and military meetings will begin. Egypt has proposed that the discussions begin in Ismailia; Israel suggested that the talks be resumed later on in Beersheba.

The talks will also deal with appointing a U.S. representative to participate in the meetings of this or these committees and to contact the United Nations to agree on having the meeting held under the UN flag. The task of this committee will be to fix a date for starting the main and basic Israeli withdrawal to the east of the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line.

2. The time period required for the first phase of the withdrawal and the other measures to prepare and formulate the peace agreement which, according to the accord, should be concluded in 3 months and after the main Israeli withdrawal is completed.

3. The problem of "freezing" the settlements in the West Bank and Gaza and the results of Atherton's discussions with Menahem Begin on this subject as well as the U.S. position on this matter and its connection with the U.S. undertaking to build two new airports for Israel in the Negev desert.

President as-Sadat discussed this subject during his telephone conversation with President Carter day before yesterday.

4. The results of the contacts which have taken place with the Palestinians. Atherton has held contacts with a number of important Palestinian personalities in the West Bank for the purpose of starting the process of electing the Palestinian representatives in the autonomous national council in the West Bank and Gaza. Also, the results of King Husayn's discussions with the U.S. envoy with regard to his responsibilities toward the West Bank as well as Egypt's responsibilities regarding the Gaza Strip.

Alfred Atherton will leave Cairo by air at dawn Sunday to continue his tour in the Arab Maghreb states.

U.S. AMBASSADOR ATHERTON ARRIVES IN CAIRO 30 SEP

NC301055Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat will receive U.S. Middle East roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton at noon today to discuss preparations for the upcoming meetings of the joint Egyptian-Israeli committee and the results of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's recent tour of the Middle East area.

The U.S. roving ambassador arrived in Cairo this morning on a 1-day visit. He was received by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Salah Hasan and the U.S. ambassador in Cairo. Atherton declined to make any statement. He only said: Let us wait until the meeting with President as-Sadat is over.

Received by As-Sadat

NC301414Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat this morning received Mr Alfred Atherton, U.S. assistant secretary of state and roving Middle East ambassador. The meeting was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak. The meeting lasted 90 minutes.

After the meeting Atherton expressed his happiness at meeting President as-Sadat. He said that he came to Cairo to brief President as-Sadat on the results of the talks which Mr Cyrus Vance held recently in some Arab capitals and to prepare for the future talks between Egypt and Israel to reach a peace agreement within the framework of the Camp David agreements. Atherton said that the meeting was dominated by the atmosphere of friendship and amity which prevailed during the Camp David talks.

As for the place and time of the forthcoming talks between Egypt and Israel, Atherton said that discussions on this are continuing, and no place or time has yet been set for the talks.

He added that he met with a delegation of West Bank and Gaza leaders, and explained to the delegation members the Camp David agreements. He refused to comment on the nature of this meeting.

Concluding his statement, Atherton said that he will leave Cairo tomorrow for Tunis and Rabat. He will then visit some European countries.

Atherton Meets With Ghali

NC3015502 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali this afternoon met with U.S. roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton. Present at the talks on the U.S. side was U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts.

After the 1-hour meeting Mr Atherton said that they continued the discussion held with President as-Sadat this morning on the start of negotiations between Egypt and Israel within the framework of the agreements reached at the Camp David conference and within the capacity of the United States as a full partner in these negotiations. He said that the location of the negotiations will be agreed upon among the three sides and will be announced after agreement is reached.

The U.S. roving ambassador arrived in Cairo this morning on a 1-day visit. He was received by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Salah Hasan and the U.S. ambassador in Cairo.

Dr Butrus Ghali stated that Mr Atherton's talks in Cairo were very useful. He said that the United States will take part in the forthcoming negotiations. The date of these negotiations has not yet been set. There is also no problem with regard to the date or place of the negotiations. He said that the level on which these negotiations will take place has not yet been decided.

Asked whether the negotiations will take place on the basis of a political committee and a military committee, Dr Ghali said he cannot say at this time.

Dr Butrus Ghali said that the exchange of letters regarding the settlements in the West Bank has not yet taken place. He added that Mr Atherton presented a report to President as-Sadat on the results of his visits to the Arab states and Israel.

Leaves Cairo 1 Oct

NC0110042 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] U.S. Middle East roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton left Cairo today after concluding a 1-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. During the visit he was received by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The talks Atherton held in Cairo centered on the start of the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations and the results of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's visit to the states in the area.

CAIRO RADIO: PEACE TALKS TO BEGIN IN WASHINGTON 12 OCT

NC0120422 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali this evening met with a group of Foreign Ministry experts to prepare for the upcoming negotiations between Egypt and Israel with the full participation of the United States. During the meeting Dr Ghali and the Foreign Ministry experts discussed the most important points and topics which will be brought up in the upcoming negotiations.

The Foreign Ministry is currently holding consultations with the pertinent ministries and departments in Egypt in order to fully prepare for all the questions pertaining to the peace agreement with Israel.

The radio reporter has learned that the upcoming negotiations between Egypt and Israel with the participation of the United States will be held in Washington on 12 October, under the UN flag.

Meanwhile, a responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that the Arab Republic of Egypt welcomes the participation of the United Nations, that Egypt believes that the United Nations has a key role to play in the upcoming negotiations, and that the Camp David agreements have adhered to the UN principles and objectives and have given the United Nations an effective role, both in regard to the overall framework for a settlement of the Middle East crisis and the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel.

Further Details

NC0110G3Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 October--The newspaper AL-AHRAM today reports that the upcoming Egyptian-Israeli talks for the implementation of the Camp David agreements will be held in Washington on 12 October. The paper says that Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Acting Foreign Minister Dr Butrus Ghali will lead the Egyptian delegation to the talks.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the Egyptian delegation will include, in addition to Butrus Ghali, Deputy Prime Minister and War Minister Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz and a number of advisers.

The weekly Egyptian paper AS-SIYASI quotes informed U.S. sources as having stated that the Egyptian-Israeli talks will take from 5 to 6 weeks, after which the agreement on a permanent peace between Egypt and Israel will be signed. The sources said that the U.S. Government will continue to play an active role during all phases of the discussions. The paper says that the political and military talks will be held at foreign and war ministers level. Other meetings might be held on a lower level to study the delicate changes and present them to the ministers step by step.

Quoting U.S. sources, the paper expresses the belief that the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty will be signed for Egypt by President Anwar as-Sadat himself and for Israel by Menahem Begin. It is possible that President Carter will participate in signing the treaty and then pay a friendly visit to both Egypt and Israel.

The paper says that there is a possibility that the treaty will be signed in November; that is, several weeks before the date set in the Camp David agreements.

CAIRO PRESS COMMENTS ON LEBANON, VANCE STATEMENTS

NC0108O1Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Today's Cairo newspapers refer to the historic speech which President Anwar as-Sadat will deliver at 1000 tomorrow at the emergency meeting to be held by the People's Assembly and attended by the members of the Central Committee. The newspapers say that President as-Sadat is expected to deal in his speech with two basic subjects: the special situation with regard to the Middle East issue after the Camp David conference and the results of the Camp David summit meeting, and the domestic political situation and new general framework of the state in light of the fundamental changes which will extend to all institutions and departments.

The newspapers follow up the reports on the start of the negotiations on withdrawal from Sinai which are expected to take place in Washington on 12 October. The papers also shed light on the statement by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, who will lead the Egyptian delegation to the talks, that Israel might end the military rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank in 3 months.

On the dimensions of the situation in the Lebanese arena, the Cairo papers report the waves of violence which swept Beirut during the past few days at a time when U.S. President Jimmy Carter made a personal appeal to all the parties to the conflict in Lebanon to negotiate to reach a peaceful solution now that over 100 persons have been killed in one day in the fighting between the Syrian forces and the rightist militias.

On the rapid deterioration of the situation in Lebanon, the newspaper AL-AHRAM today says that Egypt has always been concerned for Lebanon's safety and territorial integrity. It has often warned the parties involved in the internal events against the tragedy. Egypt's expectations have been confirmed and the answer has emerged to the bitter question: Who is the actual beneficiary of events on Lebanese soil? In any case, it is futile for us to think of making accusations now. It is not the time for judgment, but for swift serious work to put an end to the tragedy of Lebanon--the land of battles and pain--by reaching a political settlement that will insure Lebanon's territorial integrity and a stable government under the canopy of a new national charter. This is one more cause for joint Arab action.

AL-AHRAM expresses its conviction that the Lebanese people, in their various communities, bear the lion's share of this responsibility. Many people support this view and would like to see Lebanon emerge from its harsh tribulation and again become a model of the secular state and the land of tolerance and coexistence of communities. However, this requires generous efforts by all Arab parties to the dispute in Lebanon as well as by Arab states which have sponsored this noble mission. In their task, they will find unprecedented international support, particularly from the big powers, which are interested in Lebanon's unity and independence as well as peace and stability in the Middle East.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH comments on U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's positive statements regarding Washington's interpretation of the Camp David resolutions. The paper points out that there is a great difference between the expressions being used by U.S. diplomacy currently as uttered by Vance with regard to the Middle East and the expressions the United States used throughout the past 30 years regarding this problem as recorded in its official documents. Until recently, official U.S. documents described the Palestinians as terrorists. Successive U.S. governments propounded plans to resettle the Palestinians in the Arab countries in which they are residing, but not in the West Bank or Gaza. The expression "just settlement" was reiterated in support of occupation.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes its article by emphasizing that the majority of credit for this change goes to President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and the extraordinary efforts he exerted at Camp David for the sake of Egypt, Palestine and all the Arabs.

AL-AHRAM ON ANNIVERSARY OF 'ABD AN-NASIR'S DEATH

LD291846Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Sep 78 p 7 LD

[Ahmad Bahjat article: "28 September"]

[Text] Eight years ago today all the Egyptian radios suddenly switched to broadcasting Koran recitals. A joke went around saying that the shaykhs had staged a coup in Egypt and taken over the radio. But no one laughed at this joke and gloom soon showed on the people's faces as they wondered what could have happened. Then came the announcement of 'Abd an-Nasir's death. A few moments after the announcement was made people throughout the Arab world were marching in the streets crying hysterically over the death of one of their greatest revolutionaries. No one was the subject of such controversy among the people as was 'Abd an-Nasir.

The most significant thing about 'Abd an-Nasir's era is that he placed Egypt in its right position of responsibility in the Arab, African and Islamic worlds, turned its leadership from mere words to action and sacrifice, and with his words as well as with his intelligence organs sparked the most important revolutions in Africa and the Arab world. His words brought foreign alliances tumbling down. His dream was Arab unity; although it was premature, it is the noblest dream of the Arab conscience despite the great difficulties.

In the domestic field 'Abd an-Nasir led the July revolution in order to achieve social justice; he began with the capitalism of the state and established the public sector. But he entrusted his ideas to the bureaucrats, who turned the revolution's noble objectives into losses for the state and bribes for themselves.

'Abd an-Nasir reorganized Egyptian society economically; he struck against the rich in the interest of the poor. He was accused by the rich of hating them because he was poor, while in fact he was only an Egyptian who was pained by the vast discrepancy between the wealth of the rich and the poverty of the poor. Education became free in universities and schools. But he did not liberate the mind sufficiently. 'Abd an-Nasir also realized the danger of foreign goods to national industry and therefore restricted such goods in the interest of the nascent industry. He nationalized the Suez Canal Company and fought a war against old colonialism. He was defeated militarily but triumphed politically.

'Abd an-Nasir succeeded in achieving scores of national dreams but failed to create a real popular party that the people would believe in. He had no theory around which the people would rally. His police organs spread a reign of terror which concealed reality from him. Therefore, in the end he was surprised by the defeat of his army.

Like a great hero in a tragedy he saw before his death most of his dreams crashing to the ground. Despite everything and despite his death 8 years ago, 'Abd an-Nasir is still in the conscience of his nation and the Arab nation, and symbol of a great revolutionary dream and of Egypt's ability to give without limitations.

INFORMATION MINISTER PROTESTS SYRIAN PROPOSAL TO ARAB RADIOS UNION

NC011953Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 1 October--Minister of Culture and Information 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi has affirmed that Egypt's information services reflect Egypt's struggle and its ideology, culture, civilization, nobility and endurance in the face of all the outbiddings carried out by the propaganda machines of some Arab countries.

This was contained in a message Dr as-Sawi sent today to the chairman of the administrative council of the Arab Radios Union, in reply to the proposal submitted by the Syrian delegation during the meeting of the ninth session of the general assembly of the union recently held in Riyadh. The Syrian delegation called for the formation of a committee to investigate what it termed the violation by Egyptian radio and television of the Arab Radios Union agreement. The following is the text of Dr as-Sawi's letter:

Mr. Chairman of the Arab Radios Union: I greatly regret that the general assembly of the Arab Radios Union has sponsored a proposal by the Syrian delegation to authorize the administrative council to form a committee to investigate the policy pursued by the radio and television of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which contravenes the objectives of the union.

The Syrian delegation in the general assembly of the union might have the right to submit any proposal. However, at any conference it is the custom that the chairman of the session not allow a proposal to be discussed if it conflicts with the laws, regulations and accepted norms.

Has the Arab Radios Union the authority to carry out an investigation with the radio or television of a state which is a member of the union? Where has the union derived the authority to carry out investigations with official information services which are responsible to their government and to the Arab conscience, which is stronger than any organization we set up? How can an illegal proposal, in addition to the lies it contains, be allowed to be submitted to a vote by the general assembly and why has no attempt been made to draw attention to this confusion between the responsibilities of the union and the responsibilities of the Arab League?

Has the union established itself as protector of the Arab League Charter? How can this infringement on one of the prerogatives of the Arab League be allowed? Does the sponsor of the proposal also consider the union a guardian of the Arab League?

I consider the decision issued by the general assembly completely null and void. Egypt will continue to pursue its correct course and will continue to serve the Arab nation and work for the liberation of the Arab land and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

We shall see which of us is more capable of working seriously for freedom and liberation.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY APPROVED

NC011948Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1938 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 October--At a press conference he held this evening, Dr Mustafa Khalil, first secretary of the ASU Central Committee and chairman of the parties committee, announced that the parties committee has unanimously approved the establishment of the National Democratic Party after it complied with all the terms and conditions set out in the parties law.

AS-SADAT APPOINTS KHALIL TO FORM NEW GOVERNMENT

NC021240Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1237 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has issued a decision charging Dr Mustafa Khalil with forming a new cabinet.

EGYPT APPROVES RENEWAL OF UNEF MANDATE IN SINAI

NC020815Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0757 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 October--The Arab Republic of Egypt has announced its agreement on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Emergency Forces [UNEF] in Sinai. The mandate is due to end on 24 October.

According to today's issue of AL-AHRAM, Egypt has instructed its permanent UN ambassador, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Najid, to request the UN secretary general to undertake the implementation of the new duties the UNEF will assume in Sinai during the first stage of the implementation of the Camp David accord, represented by the withdrawal of the Israeli forces to the east of the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line, and also the responsibilities of the UNEF in the following stage.

AFP: EGYPTIAN CONSULATE IN ISTANBUL BOMBED

NC300906Y Paris AFP in English 0846 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Istanbul, Sep 30 (AFP)--A bomb was thrown at the Egyptian consulate here early today and exploded, causing only slight damage, Turkish police said. The consulate, an old wooden building, is on the west bank of the Bosporous here and the attackers approached it by boat, police added.

ROSE AL-YUSUF: LIBYAN OFFICIAL VISITING CAIRO

NC010935Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 October--The Egyptian magazine ROSE AL-YUSUF says in tomorrow's edition that a Libyan official arrived in Cairo a few days ago. The magazine did not disclose anything about the rank of the Libyan official or the purpose of his visit, but said that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry had sent a representative to meet him at the airport.

The magazine also says that an important Egyptian personality will begin a tour of a number of Arab countries soon.

KUWAIT AL-WATAN: EGYPTIAN LEFTISTS ARRESTED

NC010930Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0906 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 1 October--In a dispatch from Cairo, quoting Egyptian Interior Ministry sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN says today that 40 Egyptian opposition elements have been arrested and charged by the security departments with belonging to a secret leftist organization calling itself "The 8 January Party" and adopting an extremist line close to that of Abu Nidal, the Palestinian leader in Iraq.

It is known that Abu Nidal has been a refugee in Iraq since a Palestinian revolutionary court sentenced him to death. He is accused of carrying out assassination operations involving a number of Palestinian personalities. The PLO is demanding that he be handed over to it so it can carry out the death sentence passed on him.

PALESTINIAN GROUP SUPPORTS AS-SADAT POLICY

NC011509Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1432 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 1 October--The Palestinian National Grouping [At-Tajammu' Al-Watani Al-Falastini] in Cairo has expressed support for the great strides taken by President Anwar as-Sadat in Camp David and its determination to go along with the president in his efforts to liberate the Arab territory. This is contained in a cable which 'Arif Muhsin Ibdhi', the secretary general of the Palestinian National Grouping, sent today to People's Assembly Speaker Engineer Sayyid Mar'i. The cable reads:

The Palestinian National Grouping and SAWT FALASTIN and AS-SALAM magazines request you to declare from your esteemed platform, to all members of the People's Assembly in their extraordinary meeting, the support of the youth of the Palestinian National Grouping and SAWT FALASTIN and AS-SALAM magazines for the great strides taken by President Anwar as-Sadat in Camp David.

The Palestinian National Grouping and SAWT FALASTIN and AS-SALAM magazines declare allegiance to the president and pledge to go along with him in his efforts to liberate the Arab territory, confident that the Palestinian question is in honest hands. We declare our rejection of all the irresponsible voices which seek to undermine the position of the great leader and his magnificent achievements which serve the welfare of the entire Arab nation.

When renewing our pledge to the president, we promise to remain faithful to great Egypt and to adhere to its great principles of freedom, socialism and unity.

Go forward, Mr President. All Palestinian people are with you. God is your protector and supporter.

SUDANESE JUSTICE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC291927Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Mahdi al-Bahri, Sudanese attorney general and justice minister [name and title as heard], arrived in Cairo from Khartoum this afternoon, leading a delegation to attend the meetings of the joint legal committee of the higher ministerial committee on integration between Egypt and Sudan.

The committee will begin its meetings tomorrow at the Justice Ministry. During the meetings, which will last 6 days, the committee will discuss the legal drafts of the agreements on the two countries' joint projects.

The joint legal committee held its first meeting on 26 June in Alexandria.

CAIRO RADIO REPORTS NEW OIL DISCOVERY IN GULF OF SUEZ

NC020614Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2330 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The radio reporter has learned that new oil deposits have been confirmed in the Gulf of Suez. A 400-foot deep petroleum layer has been discovered. This is the third discovery by the German Deminex Company.

IRAQ ISSUES DECISIONS IN RESPONSE TO CAMP DAVID

JN011730Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text of statement issued by the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, including decisions adopted by the council on 30 September 1978, read by announcer]

[Text] Great Iraqi people, masses of the struggler Arab nation ever since the announcement of the Camp David conference results, the Arab masses have been deeply concerned about their present and future in view of the gravity of the criminal and treasonous conspiracy produced by the conference.

The Revolution Command Council has followed, in separate and joint meetings with the party national and regional commands, the development of events and the reactions in the Arab homeland. Despite the pain expressed by the Arab masses everywhere and their denunciation and condemnation of the conspiracy and treason, the total of the official and popular stands against these serious treasonous accords has not measured up to the historic level of a resolute reply to this serious conspiracy which is threatening the destiny, rights and dignity of the nation.

It is obvious that the Arab arena is awaiting a veteran warrior who can face the challenges, dissipate the darkness and remove the despondency which has almost reached the hearts of large sections of the Arab masses.

The eyes of Arabs everywhere have turned toward your great revolution in this country and your brave party which has shouldered the trust and responsibilities of the pan-Arab struggle for over 30 years. Thus your party had to take a courageous historic stand, and your revolution had to embody the meaning of historic responsibility and the heritage of ancient and modern Iraq in order to defend the dignity of the nation--as has been the case in the distant and near past.

Following a detailed study of the Arab and international possibilities and circumstances, and guided by the instructions of the party national and regional command, the Revolution Command Council decided the following:

1. As usual, Iraq shall be considered a part of the northern military front facing the Zionist enemy and of any front adjacent to the Zionist entity, in the event the front moves against the enemy in the future. Iraq announces its readiness to dispatch immediately effective military forces to the Syrian arena to insure an Arab force capable of confronting the enemy and foiling the imperialist and Zionist plans, which aim at making the nation kneel and at implementing solutions and settlements humiliating to its dignity and prejudicial to its historic rights. We appeal to the Syrian Government to respond fully to this historic pan-Arab step and to take the necessary measures to facilitate the presence of Iraqi Army units on the frontline with the enemy.

2. The gravity of the dangers arising from Egypt's departure from the Arab-Zionist dispute, if the Camp David agreements are implemented, requires all the Arab governments to take a serious and responsible stand to prevent the implementation of these agreements. Iraq calls for consultations to hold and Arab summit conference to study the Arab situation and agree on serious joint Arab steps which will prevent any Arab side from accepting any solution prejudicial to the crucial pan-Arab issues and exposing the Arab nation to the dangers of division and disintegration. Iraq expresses its readiness to host such a conference.

Aware of the strangulating economic conditions which Egypt has suffered for many years, and aware that Arab success in foiling the implementation of the Camp David agreements and restoring Egypt to the fold of joint Arab action would necessarily place financial burdens on Egypt which it cannot afford; and provided the Egyptian Government declares its readiness to give up the Camp David agreements, Iraq calls on the financially able Arab countries to form a national fund to assist Egypt and insure its financial needs. That fund would also be used to insure the financial needs of the western, northern and eastern fronts as well as the financial needs of the PLO and the steadfastness of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Arab areas in accordance with an agreement to be signed and adhered to by the concerned sides under the auspices of the entire Arab community.

Iraq proposes that appropriations for this fund be no less than $9 billion per year, subject to increase in light of the needs of the battle, for the period of 10 years. Iraq also proposes that the shares in the fund be as follows: 1) Iraq, $1 billion; 2) Libya, $1.5 billion; 3) Algeria, $0.5 billion; 4) Saudi Arabia, $3 billion; 5) Kuwait, $1.5 billion; 6) Qatar, $0.5 billion; and 7) the UAE, $1 billion. A total of $5 billion of this fund should be appropriated as annual aid to Egypt and the other funds should be appropriated for the combat fronts in order to cover the military needs on the path of steadfastness and confrontations.

Masses of the struggler Arab nation, great Iraqi people, it is at times of hard ordeals that principles and wills are tested, the honor of citizenship and affiliation to the nation is tested. With this historic stand and with high pan-Arab spirit, we bypass the dishonorable attempts of well-known sides to harm the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the revolution in Iraq. These attempts have also aimed at weakening enthusiasm toward the cause of Palestine and the Arab struggle against the colonialist and Zionist schemes. Those sides have forgotten that Iraq has had a well-known role in the struggle against Zionism and for the liberation of Palestine since the time of the Assyrians and Babylonians and since the time of Salah ad-Din al-Ayyubi and later on in the 1948 war, the 1973 October War and up to today.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has been honored by its pan-Arab struggle for more than 30 years. Iraq has been known in the spheres of struggle for its firm belief in pan-Arab principles and its great readiness to sacrifice for these principles. The honor of principles and values of the struggle at this crucial stage place on Iraq once again the task of entering the difficult arenas like a courageous warrior to defend the honor and historic rights of the nation.

Arab masses everywhere, when we wage the battle of honor--despite all the sacrifices required--we take support from your great readiness to sacrifice and reply to the plot as it deserves so that the Arab nation may take its rightful place, free and honorable, and play its great role in civilized construction for the sake of serving humanity on the basis of principles of justice, right and peace.

We appeal to the sons of our great Iraqi people to increase their work and struggle because history has again chosen them, as it chose their ancestors before, to defend the honor of the nation and of usurped Palestine. We call on all friends and strugglers for right and freedom everywhere in the world to support the Arabs in their just struggle for liberation and restoration of their legitimate rights.

[Signed] Revolution Command Council, 1 October 1978

It should be noted that the national and regional commands of the party and the Revolution Command Council held their joint meeting at the Republic Palace yesterday evening.

During the meetings, a study was made of the current Arab situation, and the historic decisions announced in the council's statement were taken. Attending the meeting were Comrade Michel 'Aflaq, secretary general of the party; Comrade Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, deputy secretary general of the party and president of the republic; Comrade Saddam Husayn, assistant secretary general of the party and vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council; and the members of the national and regional commands of the party and of the Revolution Command Council.

UGANDAN PRESIDENT AMIN ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN301840Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 September--Ugandan President Gen Idi Amin arrived here tonight and was officially received by Vice President Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, several ministers and heads of the diplomatic missions in Iraq.

President Amin's visit, which will last a few days, comes in response to an invitation from President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr.

Ma'ruf accompanied the Ugandan president in an official motorcade to the place where the guest will stay during his visit to Iraq.

Meets With Al-Bakr

JN011043Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 October--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr this morning called on Ugandan President Idi Amin at his residence in Baghdad Palace. President al-Bakr welcomed the guest and wished him a pleasant stay in Baghdad. President Amin praised the aid Iraq gives to Uganda. The meeting was attended by Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs and acting foreign minister, and (Bashir Juma), Ugandan Foreign Ministry under secretary. President Amin arrived in Baghdad last night.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR

JN011820Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 October--Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn received at his office at the National Council building this morning Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad Anatoliy Aleksandrovich Barkovskiy.

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH WALDHEIM, GROMYKO IN NEW YORK

JN291716Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[Text] New York, 29 September--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi met here today with UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim. The INA correspondent has said that Hammadi and Waldheim discussed the proposal by Iraq and other Arab countries to hold a special UN General Assembly session to discuss the Palestinian cause and the Arab-Zionist conflict.

Dr Hammadi also held a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko at the headquarters of the Soviet mission. During the meeting, they discussed developments in the situation in the Arab area in light of the Camp David results. The two ministers agreed to intensify their joint efforts and to coordinate their positions on subjects to be discussed by the UN General Assembly dealing with the Arab situation.

KING HUSAYN LEAVES FOR ARABIAN PENINSULA

JN301020Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman this morning for Saudi Arabia on the first leg of an Arab tour which will take him to Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the Sultanate of Oman. While in these countries, his majesty will hold talks with leaders and high-ranking officials on the various dimensions of the current situation in the Arab area and on the responsibilities of the joint Arab action.

His majesty was seen off at Amman airport by Prince Muhammad, Crown Prince Hasan, the commander in chief of the armed forces, the chief chamberlain, ministers and high-ranking officials. His majesty was also seen off by the Saudi charge d'affaires and the ambassadors of Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the Sultanate of Oman.

His majesty is accompanied by a delegation made up of Prime Minister Mudar Badran; 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the royal court; 'Amir Khammash, minister of court; and Dr 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali, minister of state for cabinet affairs and minister of education.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan took the constitutional oath before His Majesty King Husayn as the regent during his majesty's absence abroad.

A royal decree has been issued approving the appointment of 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of information, as acting prime minister during the absence of Mudar Badran, who is accompanying His Majesty King Husayn on his tour.

Amman Commentary

JN302123Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has started a tour of several fraternal Arab capitals with the aim of explaining the Jordanian viewpoints and finding a common basis on which a joint Arab concept can be established in order to face the current stage and its effects on the general Arab situation. It also aims at guaranteeing that the Arab rights, ignored by the agreement on a Framework for a Comprehensive Peace in the Middle East, can be preserved.

King Husayn's initiative in establishing contacts, consultations and coordination with the Arab leaders comes at a time when Egypt, the United States and Israel are getting ready to implement the provisions of the Camp David accords, which--although they achieved something for Egypt--ignored the firm rights of the Palestinian Arab people and the national rights of the other parties to the Middle East conflict; for the United States--which consistently reiterated its commitment not to impose a settlement on the states of the region--is threatening through the agreement concerning comprehensive peace to impose the related framework for a comprehensive solution, despite its discrepancy with Security Council Resolution 242 as well as with all just Arab demands for the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the region.

Moreover, the U.S. Secretary of State jumped over many facts in his speech at the UN General Assembly yesterday when he called on all parties to catch up with the train of peace. The parties invited to catch up have more than one reservation, stemming from their firm principled stands, toward the agreement on the Framework for Comprehensive Peace--a framework that gives a legitimate character to the Israeli presence in the occupied Arab territories and allows for seizing the territories of others with armed force. Thus it ignores a basic UN principle, namely, the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, as expressed in the introduction to Security Council Resolution 242.

If the United States permits itself to be in disagreement with Israel on the formula of the comprehensive peace framework--which is a framework that deals with the essence of the Arab-Zionist struggle during the last 30 years--it should be willing to accept the presence of differences among the Arab parties to the conflict, especially since the agreement on the comprehensive peace framework tackles matters fundamental to the existence of these parties and the future of their generations.

Hence, the reason behind the abstinence of the parties to the conflict from responding to the comprehensive peace framework lies, on the one hand, in the attempt to impose an unfair settlement of the dispute, and, on the other, in the continuing Arab commitment to the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace, based on Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to repatriation and self-determination.

Hence, too, comes the initiative of His Majesty King Husayn, who is moving on the Arab and international levels with the aim of securing an Arab and international stand which will guarantee the restoration of the rights that were ignored by the comprehensive framework agreement. If Egypt has achieved its national regional demands through a separate framework agreement, the framework for comprehensive peace has overlooked intrinsic principles and rights and has not offered any real solution for the conflict in the region. If peace is the purpose, in order for it to be acceptable and a real peace, it should be founded on just and comprehensive principles and should deal with all the national rights of the other parties to the Middle East dispute.

There is no doubt that Washington and Cairo realize how large the gaps are within the comprehensive peace framework and how limited the choices are that Israel will permit within this framework. Thus Arab and Palestinian territories and rights may be the price that Egypt pays in order to make its private peace with Israel.

In order that the comprehensive peace framework may not turn into injustice as a result of being imposed, by means of ignoring the various other parties to the conflict, King Husayn is making an Arab and international tour. The aim is to insure Arab and international support so as the prevent such injustice and define the real acceptable framework for a just and comprehensive peace in this region of the world.

LETTER FROM AS-SADAT TO HUSAYN DELIVERED TO REGENT

JN012042Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent and crown prince, received at his office at the Royal Hashemite Court this morning Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Amman, who conveyed a letter to His Majesty King Husayn from His Excellency President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat dealing with the current Arab situation and the Middle East issue.

AMMAN REPORTS KING HUSAYN'S INTERVIEW ON CBS

JN012020Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has declared that a just and durable peace in the Middle East is the goal which Jordan was and still is aspiring to and that we want a durable peace which will be acceptable to future generations.

In an interview with the CBS "Face the Nation" program, His Majesty King Husayn said: The Jordanian position vis-a-vis the two Camp David agreements is based on clarifying the ambiguity which clouds the second agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as well as on getting an explanation of several important points which affect all aspects of the issue. His Majesty King Husayn expressed the belief that the two Camp David agreements are not equal in clarity.

His Majesty King Husayn said: We discussed with Mr Vance and Mr Atherton, when they visited Jordan recently, several questions which we put forth to the United States. Their answers did not cover all aspects of the problem. His majesty asked whether the U.S. interpretation of Resolution 242 is still valid as we knew it when the resolution was adopted and as it was emphasized to us often in the past, or whether this interpretation has changed.

His Majesty King Husayn said: We are waiting for answers to our questions so that we can discuss matters with our people and the Arab brethren, particularly the Palestinians. Since the problem involves the Palestinian people, we want to have them participate in the making of decisions concerning the direction we will follow. We must wait and see and we will not act hastily in following any path before we fully know where it will lead. We here in Jordan have not closed the door in the way of our participation in any endeavor which is clear in its goal to establish a just and durable peace.

Asked about the clarifications for which Jordan is waiting, King Husayn said: Among the questions we are raising are:

Does the United States want to perform the role of full partner in any negotiations on the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Palestine issue in general? And in what phase of the negotiations will the United States participate and what is the role which the United States will perform? We are asking why the period of 5 years has been chosen as a transitional period for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

What is the geographic definition of the West Bank from the viewpoint of the United States Government? Are occupied Jerusalem and the adjoining areas annexed by Israel after the 1967 war included in the U.S. definition of the West Bank? As you know, what is called greater Jerusalem is now one fifth of the occupied West Bank.

What will the status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip be at the end of the transitional 5-year period? There is a reference to sovereignty in the Egyptian-Israeli agreement while the framework for Middle East peace did not include the question of sovereignty in the rest of the occupied areas.

Will Israeli forces remain stationed in any part of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip at the end of the transitional period?

If these forces remain stationed there, what is the justification for this? During the transitional period of autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, what will be the supreme authority which will supervise the autonomy? Will it be the United Nations or a neutral international supervisory authority? What sources will finance the autonomy authority's budget? And what is the extent of the power of this authority and who will define the powers of this authority? While thedocument refers to the autonomy authority which will be established in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, will the power of this authority include the sector of Jerusalem which was part of the West Bank when it was occupied in 1967? Furthermore, will the powers of this authority include the surrounding areas and also the inhabitants who were annexed?

What will be the status of Arab Jerusalem at the end of the transitional period? What will happen to the many Israeli settlements in the occupied areas, during and after the transitional period? What will be the Israeli commitments during the coming period and at the end of the transitional period toward the policy to be followed on the settlements? Will the inhabitants of the Israeli settlements in the West Bank have the right to participate in establishing the autonomy and its activities in the future? What will be the status of the Israelis residing in the West Bank and Gaza during the transitional period?

Will there be Israelis in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip? If the answer is yes, what will be their status at the end of the transitional period? And at the end of the transitional period, will the inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip exercise their right to determine freely their political future? What is the concept of the peace framework regarding the Palestinians living outside the occupied areas as refugees, and what about the restoration of their rights?

What is the definition of Palestinians and what is the concept of the framework for Middle East peace regarding the future of the rest of the occupied areas? Does the United States approve the principle of reciprocity when defining security requirements? Does the United States believe that provision of these requirements should come from only one side?

There was agreement to have Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for a peaceful settlement to include the West Bank and Gaza and other aspects of the dispute. What will the U.S. position be in case of contradictory interpretations among the negotiating sides, particularly in light of the previous U.S. interpretations regarding its decisions and commitments that were accepted by Jordan then?

King Husayn expressed the hope that Jordan will receive clear answers. He said: We want to eliminate ambiguity because we have been living with ambiguity since 1967 when we accepted Resolution 242.

His majesty said: Most problems in the area are related to the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan, particularly Jerusalem. We want to know exactly what we will be invited to participate in. We want to know what kind of effort we would be making to contribute to the establishment of a just and durable peace.

Asked about the anticipated developments in the area in case a partial settlement of the Middle East problem is reached, King Husayn said: I believe we will have serious problems.

As long as the Palestinian issue remains unresolved, no just and durable peace can be achieved. I believe that the ramifications will be serious in various parts of the area because the feeling predominating in the area is that the Arab world has given a lot to the rest of the world, particularly to the United States, through supplying it with sources of energy, the stabilization of the international monetary system, and other services.

King Husayn asked whether there is a balance in the U.S. outlook on the two disputant sides.

Asked about statements recently reiterated about the deterioration of Jordanian-U.S. relations during this phase, his majesty said he does not agree with this opinion. However, he said that these relations are passing through a critical stage. He expressed dissatisfaction about portraying Jordan as an obstacle in the way of establishing a just and durable peace, as this is Jordan's cherished goal.

Asked about his confidence in the efforts of U.S. President Carter, King Husayn said that he still believes in his sincerity and determination to use all his efforts to establish a just and durable peace in the area.

AD-DUSTUR SCORES CARTER ON LEBANON POLICY

JN3011137 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Sep 78 pp 1, 17 JN

[Editorial: "Lebanon and the Pincer of Camp David"]

[Text] It seems that the course President Carter initiated at Camp David with Egypt and Israel is now intended to go further and proceed toward Lebanon. This new course is demonstrated by the call which President Carter made paving the way for convening a conference in which Israel and the United States will participate in addition to the Arab countries which discussed the Lebanese problem in Riyadh. Thus the U.S. administration wants to legalize Israel's interference in the Lebanese tragedy and make Israel a partner in solving the Lebanese question which concerns only Lebanon and the Arabs.

Needless to say, the U.S. administration already realizes that none of the Arab countries which participated in the Riyadh conference--except Egypt--can negotiate with Israel. This means that the conference for which President Carter is preparing will receive no response except from Israel, Egypt and the United States. Thus the three parties which began the course together at Camp David, and undertook to act not only in the Egyptian arena but also in the Palestinian arena, want to take another step and act together in Lebanon as if the destiny of the area is entrusted to tripartite tutelege.

It is taken for granted that the most important goals of this conference, if it ever convenes, will be:

First, to characterize Syria as a party which does not want stability consolidated in Lebanon. Such a course cannot be dissociated from suspect intentions toward Syria;

Second, to provide Menahem Begin with a forum to speak as if he were the protector of Christians in Lebanon, so as to strengthen Israel's status in the Christian world;

Third, to force Lebanon to submit to the Israeli demands such as keeping the good fence and pledging not to oppose the "course" which began at Camp David;

Fourth, to diminish and cut Palestinian action down to size in the Lebanese arena; and

Fifth, to create an atmosphere in Lebanon that will drag it onto the bandwagon of Camp David, since this is a logical result of the previous articles.

They want the Lebanese tragedy to become a sacrificial lamb in the hands of Washington to enable the Camp David fellows to take Lebanon away from the eastern front. This is the crux of the tragedy.

Now what will be the stand of the Lebanese Government? What will be the stand of the other Arab parties as they see the pincer of Camp David closing on Lebanon in an attempt to pull it away from what remains of the Arab wall? This is the question which the Arab masses want answered.

AR-RA'Y COMMENTS ON VANCE'S SPEECH AT UNGA

JN300939Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 30 Sep 78 pp 1, 12 JN

[Editorial: "Vance's Advice to the Arabs"]

[Text] In his speech at the UN General Assembly, Vance called on the Middle East peoples to agree among themselves, start negotiations now and not remain in a state of inertia until each question is solved unilaterally. He also called on the Palestinian people to take advantage of this historic opportunity after the Camp David arrangements have insured a strong beginning toward pride and freedom.

We would have liked to believe Vance and call on the "peoples of the Middle East" to respond to his call. However, the leaders of these peoples have gathered from the Camp David agreements that they do not insure the Palestinian people's pride or their rights or even recognition of their existence as people whose homeland has been occupied and whose rights have been usurped by Israel. These agreements also do not insure the return of Arab sovereignty over the occupied Arab land, in the full sense of the word, in harmony with UN Resolution 242 which the Johnson administration approved in 1967.

If the United States is determined to achieve a just settlement in all aspects of the Middle East question as Vance has said, the question is: Where is the justice in the agreement on the Framework of Comprehensive Peace? Does U.S. justice lie in having occupied Arab Jerusalem remain a unified capital of the occupation state forever? Does this justice lie in the continued presence of the Israeli forces in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and in the occupied Syrian heights? Does this justice lie in admitting the Zionist logic of the Torah which considers the Palestinians as an Arab community on the land of Israel, or in admitting the logic of the Israeli opposition leader who called for solving the Palestine issue within the Jordanian entity?

There are many questions to be answered despite the facts which Vance placed before the world body. These facts imply detailed plans to impose a form of "comprehensive solution" on the area.

Regarding Lebanon, in view of the continuation of Arab disintegration, we can only wait and see what has been arranged to solve the Lebanese problem now that Carter has called for convening a conference to "internationalize Lebanese legality". Perhaps the future picture of the just settlement which the U.S. secretary of state announced may become clear.

PRIME MINISTER CONFERS WITH 'ARAFAT, SAUDI AMBASSADOR

Sees 'Arafat 28 Sep

NC292140Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Sep 78 NC

[Text] Yesterday evening Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who was accompanied by Salah Khalaf and Abu Musa. The discussions dealt with the possible effects of the results of the Camp David summit conference on the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas. The discussions also dealt with the results of the steadfastness and confrontation summit conference which was held in Damascus and the question of the disappearance of His Eminence Imam Musa as-Sadr. The views of Prime Minister al-Huss and 'Arafat were identical on the question of refusing the principle of settlement [of the Palestinians in Lebanon] and of insisting on the necessity of Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

Meets with Saudi Ambassador

NC011331Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss met with the Saudi ambassador to Lebanon, Gen 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, at 1000 today. During their 90-minute meeting the two men discussed topics of interest to the two countries, including the results of the Camp David conference and the possible effects of these results on the Arab and Lebanese situation. They also discussed the Lebanese and Saudi positions on what is taking place in the Middle East arena in the wake of the Camp David conference.

The discussion also dealt with Saudi Arabia's position on the issue of the Arab Deterrent Forces, considering that Saudi Arabia is an active contributor of troops and supplies to these forces and a state which played a basic role in the establishment of the Arab Deterrent Forces through its initiative in calling for the Riyadh summit conference. This conference ended fighting after 2 years of conflict and established the Arab Deterrent Forces.

It is understood that the Saudi position is to support the legitimate Lebanese authority in any position it takes on this issue and any other issue of concern to Lebanon in this delicate stage.

SPEAKER AL-AS'AD FORMS NEW PARLIAMENTARY GROUPING

NC301915Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpts] In the parliamentary sphere, the birth of the expanded parliamentary grouping [at-tajammu' an-niyabi al-muwassa'] was proclaimed this afternoon following a meeting held in the Carlton Hotel under the chairmanship of Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. The following deputies attended the meeting: Munir abu Fadil, Anwar as-Sabbah, Nabih al-Bizri, 'Abduh 'Uwaydat, Munif al-Khatib, Majid Arslan, Najah Wakim, Rashid as-Sulh, Mikhayil ad-Dahir, Zaki Mazbudi, Muhammad Yusuf Baydun, 'Ali al-'Abdallah, Ra'if Samara, Hasan ar-Rifa'i, 'Abdallah ar-Rasi, Fu'ad Ghusn, Yusuf Hammud, Nazim al-Qadiri, Michel Ma'luli, Bashir al-A'war, Shafiq Badr, Husayn Mansur, 'Abd al-Latif az-Zayn, Maurice Fadil, Sa'ib Salam, Jamil Kibbi, Amin al-Hafiz, Talal al-Mir'ibi and 'Abd al-Latif Baydun.

The meeting lasted until 1330. Afterward, Speaker al-As'ad granted the following interview to radio and television correspondents:

[begin recording] [Question] Your Excellency, Mr Speaker: Under the present circumstances and in light of the international plans presented to solve the Lebanese crisis, do you believe that the Chamber of Deputies can still play an effective role amid these developments?

[Answer] To a large extent, this is a classic question. In its capacity as an institution, or as a majority as far as the members of this chamber are concerned, and if it wants to take unified attitudes toward the various basic issues submitted to it, only the Chamber of Deputies is able to act in the political and national spheres and to save the homeland. However, I regret to say that as far as implementation is concerned and despite the fact that the majority, if not all, of the deputies are working to save the homeland, they do not always agree on the same plan and methods. This is why the chamber has been unable to save the homeland.

It is completely useless for us to keep on tossing the ball from one side of the court to the other, while the country is being torn apart and is burning. This is the reason for the invitation extended to convene this meeting, which includes all the parliamentary elements, blocs and factions of various sects. These blocs are not involved in, or do not adhere to, already declared stands--either ideologically or practically. This is a group of deputies who work for the unity of ranks and for the achievement of the principles which all have advocated.

A drafting committee was then selected to draft the visualization of the future and the construction of the future Lebanon. We conveyed the decisions made by this committee to the cabinet. However, nothing was achieved. Ultimately, we wrote the parliamentary document which--and here I repeat what I have previously said--I consider a historic achievement in relation to the phase through which we are passing. This is so because the intricate, critical and sensitive issues existing under the present explosive circumstances in which we have discussed the various subjects drew the consensus of the various factions [fi'at] whether concerning the Palestinian armed presence, the rebuilding of the army or the question of the militias and the armed forces that strike this country's security.

Despite this fact nothing has been achieved. I do not want to return to the details, to whether the government's resignation at that time was the sole reason for not adopting and implementing this document, or to whether the government's resignation was an excuse for sidestepping this document.

While we are still at the first meeting, I can say that I have noticed that all the colleagues are determined to close ranks in the full meaning of the word and adopt and abide by unified stands. Thus there will be a decision-making majority and a minority which, according to parliamentary norms, obeys the decisons made by the majority. Furthermore, and in addition to general principles, unified stands will be taken on all issues raised for discussions. This new grouping, which we hope will expand, is open to a dialog with all the other parliamentary factions.

[Question] Even the factions....

[Answer] Even the factions which condemn the decisions made by this grouping.

[Question] Even if these factions are committed, Mr Speaker?

[Answer] If they are committed, they do not condemn. Otherwise, they will dissociate themselves from their commitments and they will no longer be appropriate for the people. [end recording]

The new parliamentary grouping has been called the independent parliamentary grouping [at-tajammu' an-niyabi al-mustaqill]. A committee has been formed and assigned to lay down general principles and approve them and to draft the bylaws within the context of the discussions which were held. The committee will meet on Monday. Meanwhile, the grouping will resume its meeting to discuss the agenda which will be prepared by the committee.

The committee includes the following deputies: Bashir al-A'war, Albert Mukhaybir, Hasan ar-Rifa'i, Munir abu Fadil, Nazim al-Qadiri, Muhammad Yusuf Baydun, Michel Ma'luli and Mikhayil ad-Dahi.

FORMER PRESIDENT SHAM'UN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

NC011455Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un held a press conference this morning. A number of foreign and Lebanese correspondents attended. Sham'un answered the journalists' questions in French and English.

Asked why the cease-fire is holding better this time following the contacts between Presidents Sarkis and Al-Asad, Sham'un said: Despite everything, Hafiz al-Asad is the president of a republic. If it is true that Al-Asad ordered a cease-fire, then it is due to the fact that the recent negotiations were held on a high level. The last cease-fire agreement was preceded by three other agreements which have not been respected because they were the outcome of local handling of the situation.

He added: The recent cease-fire is not the result of any political action. There are two stories in this regard. The first story was carried by London radio last night to the effect that the French president has sternly warned President al-Asad regarding the situation in Lebanon. The second story involves losses among Syrian forces. Naturally, the destruction which befell the Lebanese people is great and extensive. The recent cease-fire could be due to the fact that Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian clique have felt compunction. This would be surprising indeed.

Answering a question on the continuation of the Lebanese resistance, former President Sham'un said: There is no time limit. The resistance will continue until the last Syrian soldier leaves Lebanese territory. He added: The people will decide on and express legitimacy. It is they who represent legitimacy, not a person imprisoned within four walls who cannot make decisions or speak in the name of legitmacy. Legitimacy emanates from the people and represents their free will.

Asked if Syrian forces have been able to penetrate any of the Lebanese forces' positions, Sham'un answered no. However, these forces were able to overrun a position in Al-Hadath tonight [as heard] but Lebanese forces regained it afterwards.

Asked if the Syrians covet land in Lebanon or if they want to wage terrorist ideological warfare, former President Sham'un answered: They seek not only to gain land but also to crush the Lebanese resistance. However, the resistance is much stronger and more effective than they believe. The destruction of the economy and houses means nothing to us. The national cause is involved. The overwhelming majority in Lebanon has become more courageous and firmer. It is indeed a barbaric action that the Syrians could use 240-mm weapons, but they suffered about 400 casualties in return.

Regarding the Syrian rejection of President Carter's initiative on peace in Lebanon, the Liberal Party leader said: The Syrians are accustomed to rejecting everything which is logical and everything which could lead to positive results. They are negative by nature. Their method has led to the loss of Palestine. They will lose Syria itself one day because of this negative method.

He added: It would be acrime to renew the mandate of the deterrent forces in Lebanon after all that has happened. These forces might continue to shell residential quarters if no initiative is made soon by the United Nations and its Security Council or by a group of foreign states.

He also said: President Ilyas Sarkis knows my position. When he decides not to renew the mandate of the deterrent forces, I will extend my hand to him. He added: It is funny to say that the deterrent forces are under the orders of President Sarkis when he cannot move one Syrian soldier from his position. Now that the Syrians have refused the security plan by President Sarkis, any talk about the conditional renewal of their mandate might be too late.

Finally Sham'un expressed hope that Christians, particularly in the north, will be reunified because the situation there is the result of present circumstances. He affirmed that continuous contacts are being held with the leaders in the north and that the majority of the towns and villages there support the trend of the Lebanese Front but are unable to resist the Syrians.

Lebanese journalists asked former President Sham'un to express an opinion on the statement which Prime Minister al-Huss has made accusing Sham'un of exacerbating the situation. Sham'un accused Prime Minister al-Huss of treason, saying: It would be very beneficial if Prime Minister al-Huss were to keep quiet because he has no national [word indistinct] Lebanese feelings.

VOL REPORTS U.S. AMBASSADOR'S REPATRIATION STATEMENT

NC021000Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon representative has learned that preparation has begun on a plan for implementation in the upcoming phase. The plan calls for repatriating the Palestinians in southern Lebanon and preparing a plan for evacuating the Shi'ite compatriots from the south and repatriating them in Al-Biqa'.

This plan was revealed by former Ambassador to Lebanon Richard Parker only 1 day before his departure from Lebanon. Parker expressed to the weekly magazine MONDAY MORNING, issued today, his belief that there are Palestinians who will finally reside in Lebanon. He added that his government is prepared to begin a dialog with the PLO, on condition that the PLO recognizes UN Security Council Resolution 242 and Israel's right to exist.

FIGHTING ERUPTS AGAIN AROUND BEIRUT; CABINET MEETS

Sarkis Chairs Cabinet Meeting

NC300920Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpt] President Ilyas Sarkis chaired the scheduled extraordinary cabinet session at 1045 today. The session was attended by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and other ministers except for Ministers Fu'ad Butrus and Michel Dumit, who have so far been unable to reach the presidential palace due to the deterioration on the security situation in the capital and the suburbs.

Sarkis Meets ADF Commander

NC011311Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The president of the republic this morning resumed his efforts to deal with the security situation and continued the political contacts he started yesterday to stabilize the cease-fire, which went into effect following a telephone contact between him and President Hafiz al-Asad.

This morning he met for this purpose with the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] commander, Col Sami al-Khatib. At 1015 he received Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and Phalangist Party Deputies Dr George Sa'adah, Edmond Rizq, Louis abu Sharaf and party Secretary General Joseph Sa'adah. The meeting lasted until 1215.

After the meeting, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil made a statement in which he stressed that after what has happened, it is better for one not to say anything. In reply to a question, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil expressed hope that the cease-fire will continue. He said that this is what his excellency the president asked him to abide by. Al-Jumayyil also expressed hope that the meeting between Presidents Sarkis and Al-Asad would be fruitful for the good of all concerned. Al-Jumayyil then called for officials to make Arab and international tours and contacts to explain the Lebanon issue.

Al-Huss Comments on Fighting

NC301629Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 30 Sep 78 NC

[Excerpt] Commenting on today's incidents, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss said this afternoon: These have been dreadful hours evoking deep pain. It seems that he who warned has carried out his threat. The result has been that innocent and peaceful people have paid the price with their blood, their lives and their property.

Salman To Miss Conference

NC010825Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman affirmed this morning that the security situation continues to improve and that calm is prevailing on all the axes which were the arenas for recent incidents. Dr Salman apologized to the Arab League Secretariat General and the Iraqi interior minister saying that owing to current conditions in Lebanon he would not be able to attend the interior ministers conference scheduled to open in Baghdad tomorrow. Minister Salman has said that the Lebanese delegation to the conference will be headed by the internal security forces chief of staff, Col Joseph Muja'is.

VOL Reports on Fighting

NC020625Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The security situation flared up once again last night and fighting raged on the combat lines in the early hours today. The fighting has continued up to this moment. There have been numerous fires in streets and buildings. Furthermore, buildings have been hit by intense artillery and missile shelling. This shelling has been extended and includes Beirut, the southern suburb, B'abda Palace, Sinn al-Fil, Al-Judaydah and Jall ad-Dib, where the old-people's home in the Holy Cross Convent was hit. Two persons have been wounded. A convent has been hit in Ad-Dubayyah. The shelling has extended to the area of (?Az-Zuq) in Kisrawan. In most of these operations, only material damage has been sustained.

In Beirut, shelling intensified and residents spent the night in dark shelters. The Syrian shelling was particularly concentrated on the As-Sayfi area in preparation for infiltration attempts aimed at occupying the Rivoli. These attempts were thrown back and Syrian elements remain besieged in the Al-Ahdab center in Martyrs Square.

The shelling was also particularly directed at the As-Salam playground-Karam Hospital-Lido combat line.

In Al-Hadath, infiltration attempts were made in the Syrian positions in (Sidnayy). All these attempts were repulsed. Some 12 shells fell either on or around B'abda Palace. Other attempts were made on the combat lines of Ash-Shiyah, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, the Al-Majadilah quarter, and Al-Hadath. All these attempts were frustrated.

An infiltration attempt was made from the direction of Al-Jisr Al-Wati in Sinn al-Fil toward Corniche an-Nahr--the Sa'at al-'Abd station. There Syrian forces blocked the road in an operation aimed at opening the way for the Syrian force stationed on the Al-Karantina and Burj Hamud bridges. Bright flares were fired in the areas of the two bridges. The Syrians retreated from these two bridges. However, they took up positions in some nearby buildings.

Shells also fell on the western area of Beirut. The shelling was mostly directed at the Syrian positions in Sinn al-Fil where losses of life and equipment are reportedly heavy.

Politicians, leaders and officials have been engaged in activities since this morning to maintain a certain amount of calm, while waiting for security steps to be taken and implemented. These steps have become very necessary to lift the pressure of the harassment to which residents are being subjected and to halt this devastating disaster, as observers are saying.

Deterrent Forces Issue Statement

NC020737Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The security situation exploded violently at 0245 today on various traditional combat lines. Shells and explosions are being heard up to this moment. Furthermore, several fires have been caused by the shells and explosions.

A while ago, the Arab Deterrent Forces Command issued the following statement: On Saturday, 30 September 1970, while the Arab Deterrent Forces were involved in a clash with armed men in Al-Ashrafiyah, a detachment of the deterrent forces was compelled to advance 200 meters to the northwest in order to cover the western flank of the battalion. The detachment occupied a building in this area as a vantage point. The morning of Sunday, 1 October 1978, when the cease-fire had successfully continued in almost all areas, the Arab Deterrent Forces Command realized that the new place referred to above, in which the above-mentioned detachment was stationed, might be used by the armed men as a pretext for violating the cease-fire and again aggravating the security situation.

Therefore, the command decided to return this detachment to its former station in the Hdith building and Burj Rizq. However, fearing that the detachment's members would come under sniper fire by armed men during the detachment's return to its positions, the Arab Deterrent Forces Command summoned party officials at 1400 yesterday, Sunday, to its headquarters to brief them on the command's decision and to caution them against intercepting this detachment and jeopardizing its security.

The cautioning was clear and frank, because any attack on the members of this detachment would force the deterrent forces to keep it in place and occupy all the buildings, which provide the battalion command with military cover. The two above-mentioned representatives promised to answer the command at 1530. At the fixed time an answer was given to the effect that these representatives could not find another party to inform of the situation. Consequently, fire was opened on the detachment positions and the positions of the battalion. An exchange of light fire began between the armed men and the Arab Deterrent Forces. This exchange was rapidly halted. Consequently, between 1830 and midnight on Sunday/Monday night, the Arab Deterrent Forces held four telephone contacts with the leader of the leading party. He fully responded to the contracts and issued strict instructions to an official to coordinate the operation, saying particularly that the detachment, which was to be withdrawn, included several seriously wounded men. However, after long hesitation, he proceeded to the site of the operation and did not return. Nor did he contact the deterrent forces to report what he had done. Meanwhile, the armed men facing the detachment continued firing intensively on the members of the detachment and the battalion, which had totally ceased firing to enable the above-mentioned official to reach the vicinity of the Berty establishment to end the operation. At 2400, the above-mentioned official contacted the deterrent forces and said that it was impossible to carry out the operation at night. The command gave him time and asked him to stay where he was so that an agreement could be reached with him at another time in the morning.

When the command officials tried to contact this official again to set an hour, they were unable to reach him by any means. They were told that he had left his office and that his destination was unknown--which proved that negative intentions existed.

At 0300 today, Monday, 2 October, the detachment was surprised by the siege being consolidated against it. The detachment came under intense fire from all directions. This led the Arab Deterrent Forces to shell the battalion intensively to break the siege imposed on the battalion and return its members to the battalion's previous positions. The operation was concluded and the seven wounded were evacuated at 0445, while the artillery of the militias poured fire on the positions of the Arab Deterrent Forces.

At 0450, the deterrent forces completely ceased firing on orders from the command. However, the artillery of the armed men had not ceased firing when this statement was being prepared.

VOL Updates Security Report

NC0210122Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0915 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpt] Battles are raging between Lebanese and Syrian forces, which are insanely shelling the heavily populated quarters in Al-Ashrafiyah, Al-Hadath, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, At-Tahwitah, Al-Judayday, Jall ad-Dib, (Ad-Dubayyah), Antilyas and the southwestern (area) of the Kisrawan Coast. The battles are intensifying on the Berty-As-Salam-Lido combat line as well as on the combat lines of the two eastern bridges in Al-Karantina and Burj Hammud.

Many fires have been seen on the perimeter of Burj Rizq, As-Salam Ad-Dawrah.

Furthermore, some pine woods are being seen burning in the areas of Bayt Miri and Qurnat Shahwan. These words are burning because incendiary bombs have fallen in this area.

A correspondent in the Kisrawan area reports that a fire has broken out in a gas station near Adonis, where artillery shells have fallen. The shells have also damaged six vehicles and wounded six persons in this area.

In Al-Hadath, penetration attempts have been made from the communist positions in (Sidnayya). All these attempts have been repulsed. Some 22 shells have fallen on or around B'abda Palace. Other attempts were made on the Ash-Shiyah and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah combat lines but all these attempts have failed.

ADF Issues Second Communique

NC020948Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Arab Deterrent Forces' second communique at 0900 on 2 October]

[Text] Subsequent to their previous communique issued this morning, the Arab Deterrent Forces Command announces that, since 0300, militias' artillery has been continuously shelling Arab Deterrent Forces' centers, as well as some of the Al-Matn villages. At 0715, a number of shells fell on the town of 'Alayh. At present, the number of casualties is not yet known. Many shells previously fell on Al-'Abbadiyah, Ba'l Shmayh, Al-Yarzi, Al-Hazimiyyah, the museum, Shatila, Jisr Beirut, and Jsir al-Wati. The shelling is still going on, in spite of the fact that the Arab Deterrent Forces stopped their shelling at 0450. This has forced the Arab Deterrent Forces to fire back at the sources of fire in a very limited manner in order to warn them. In their desire to put an end to this fire exchange and to preserve the citizens' safety and their freedom of movement, the deterrent forces hereby announce that the museum road, Jisr al-Wati and Jisr Beirut are not safe for traffic.

Third ADF Communique

NC021052Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Arab Deterrent Forces' third communique at 1000 GMT on 2 October]

[Text] Since 0900, the southern suburb of Beirut has been relatively quiet. The deterrent forces command is working to consolidate this calm by all possible means and to hold contacts on various levels. The armed men are, however, continuing their artillery shelling from the area extending from 'Ayn Sa'adah and Bayt Miri up to Brummana and from the area of Rumiyah Nahr al-Mawt Dubayyah. The shelling is directed against the Arab Deterrent Forces' positions in Sinn al-Fil, Jisr al-Basha, Jisr Beirut, Jisr al-Wati and other positions. The deterrent forces are continuing to fire back in a warning vein in order to bolster the cease-fire efforts.

Militia armed personnel groupings have been observed in Ad-Dawrah, supported by a large number of military vehicles.

The Arab Deterrent Forces' Command warns these men against carrying out any rash adventure and affirms that it will not hesitate to use all the weapons it possesses in order to protect its soldiers and the positions in which they are stationed.

SPOKESMAN DENIES LEBANON CONFERENCE REPORT

JN3020044Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following: Radios have attributed to a U.S. State Department official spokesman a statement to the effect that the U.S. administration has held contacts with a number of countries during the last 2 weeks, including Syria, to propose convening an international conference on Lebanon, and that Syria has agreed.

We are astonished at this statement because Syria has not discussed such an idea and has not supported such a conference. Syria supports a working formula agreed upon by Lebanese parties and factions only. Syria rejects any formula not unanimously accepted by these parties and factions. A useful conference would be one called and supported by the Lebanese disputants alone. Any other conference would be useless, besides being an attempt at intervention and to impose tutelage over other peoples.

TISHRIN Comment

JN0207567 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "America Is Preparing a New Camp David in Lebanon," TISHRIN comments as follows: Following President Carter's 28 September announcement of a proposal to convene a conference to resolve the Lebanese problem with the participation of all parties concerned, the hireling militias which are colluding with Israel exploded the security situation in the fraternal country. Obviously the statement by the U.S. President is a clear signal to these militias to play the role that has been drawn up for them in Washington and Tel Aviv circles.

It is strange that Carter did not specify the parties that are nominated to participate in the above-mentioned conference, although it has been stated in Washington that the U.S. President meant Syria, due to its military presence in Lebanon, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, as well as France and the United States for historical reasons. Will Lebanon be represented at the above-mentioned conference? And who will be nominated by the U.S. administration to represent Lebanon? Is it the legitimate government or Camille Sham'un? The obscurity of this point is undoubtedly premeditated.

TISHRIN asks: What is the significance behind the call for convening this conference at this particular time? Why did Carter focus on Lebanon, as if Lebanon has suddenly become the concern which is uppermost in the mind of the U.S. administration? TISHRIN answers: It appears that subjugating Egypt and making it kneel at Camp David has not accomplished the purpose, in view of the denunciation and protests in the Arab homeland condemning As-Sadat's treasonous course and U.S. plots against the Arabism of fraternal Egypt. U.S. and Israeli circles believe that threatening Syria and circumventing it if possible is bound to nullify the effectiveness of Arab opposition to the Camp David agreements and consequently will drag other hesitant Arab countries into the Israeli quicksand. TISHRIN concludes by saying that Lebanon represents a fertile ground for the new U.S. maneuver.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN LEBANON

JN010806Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Commenting on the Camp David ambush in its column "Behind the News," the newspaper TISHRIN says: Well-informed observers are correct because the situation in Lebanon has again come to a head. The agent militias opened fire on the Arab Deterrent Forces and peaceful citizens with heavy artillery received from Israel. These forces, which have been entrusted with the task of safeguarding security and peace and protecting all Lebanese citizens and the establishments of the legitimate Lebanese state from the evils of these militias, had no choice but to silence the sources of fire, particularly since this time the fighting was spread throughout vast areas.

These militias, which have been preparing for such a confrontation for several months, were only waiting for orders from Washington and Tel Aviv to drown Lebanon in a sea of blood. The U.S.-Israeli orders arrived after the Camp David agreements were met with strong opposition in the Arab homeland and after As-Sadat became an outcast, whose words nobody attaches any importance to following his betrayal of his pledges.

The explosion of ths situation in Lebanon aims at embroiling Syria in the problem and preoccupying it so as to keep it from the battle of steadfastness and confrontation it is waging against As-Sadat and the United States.

AL-BA'TH: AS-SADAT WOULD STRIKE AT STEADFASTNESS FRONT

LD291358Y Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 26 Sep 78 pp 1, 11 LD

[Mahmud Kamil article: "Backgrounds of 'Withdrawal' Over 3 Years"]

[Excerpt] What does Israel's insistence in the Camp David accords, that partial withdrawal from Sinai should take place over 3 years, really mean?

It is not a question of testing As-Sadat's intentions, for Israel, no doubt, is sure of his intentions. It is sure, not because Begin is his friend and likes him, but rather because Israel is in fact in control of the entire Egyptian situation. Indeed, Egypt on the basis of a scientific analysis of As-Sadat's policies, is considered at this moment to be under an Israeli mandate. If the Camp David accords and the tripartite alliance plan succeed, then the entire Arab homeland will, one way or another, come under an Israeli mandate and influence, as well as U.S. domination.

What does Israel's insistence that the period of its first and second withdrawal be that long--3 years--mean? We use the term "withdrawal" only figuratively because the agreements do not only prohibit the Egyptian Army--which has been reduced to half its size--from entering deep into Sinai, but also insures Israeli military control of Sinai. The three airfields that Israel will give up without giving Egypt the right to use them militarily will be compensated for by the United States, which will build two airfields that will be only a few seconds away in air distance from the previous ones. We are not the ones who say so; these are Begin's very words. Once again we ask: Why should the "withdrawal" period be that long?

For many reasons: The United States and Israel want As-Sadat and his partners--those Arabs collaborating with him--to strike at any move to oppose the policy of the tripartite alliance on the grounds that such a move would hinder "withdrawal" from Sinai and would delay the Israeli decision. Or, probably, such a strike will be billed as launching the solution.

Thus Egypt has become a hostage in Israel's hands; either it will first strike at the movement opposed to the Camp David agreements or there will be no "withdrawal." Certainly As-Sadat will put forth the matter as follows: The steadfastness front is hindering Israeli "withdrawal." As-Sadat will also tell the Egyptians that the front is hindering the liberation of Sinai and, therefore, he will declare war against it, either in participation with Israel, or individually, after coordinating and planning with Israel and the United States, or even through one of numerous "historic" initiatives.

From an objective analysis of As-Sadat's steps one can draw the unmistakable conclusion that As-Sadat will not hesitate to strike at any movement opposed to the Camp David agreements. Syria and the Palestinians form the confrontation front of the countries participating in the steadfastness front that stand against the outcome of Camp David. This front endangers the Camp David policy and will be able to cause its failure if the steadfastness movement is able to become a comprehensive movement on the Arab and internal levels and if it is capable of rallying the opinion and the efforts of the Arab masses against the tripartite alliance.

Secondly, the United States and Israel want to insure the means of Egypt's subservience to them through involving As-Sadat in U.S. operations in Africa as well. He has had previous experience in this regard and has proved to be worthy of U.S. confidence. Such an involvement by As-Sadat could become customary and a matter of course.

REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT AL-ASAD'S VISIT TO GDR

For Berlin ADN and domestic radio accounts of the visit to the German Democratic Republic by a Syrian delegation led by President al-Asad, see the GDR section of the 2 October Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

Accompanying Delegation Named

JN2921315Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and Mrs al-Asad will begin their official and friendly visit to the GDR the day after tomorrow, Sunday, 1 October. His excellency the president will be accompanied by a party and government delegation made up of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, member of the national and regional commands of the Ba'th Party and deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Jamil Shayya, member of the National Command and deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Industry Minister Shutaywi Sayfu; and Minister of State for Planning Affairs Dr George Huraniyah. The Syrian ambassador in Berlin, Huza'i Malli, will also join the delegation.

GDR Ambassador Discusses Visit

JN302138Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, GDR ambassador to Syria, has praised President al-Asad's visit to Berlin. He stressed that the visit is an expression of the close and strong relations existing between the two countries, parties, and peoples.

In an article published by the newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, the GDR ambassador said that these relations are based on strong solidarity hostile to imperialism and on agreement concerning positions in the joint struggle for the sake of peace, security and progress and against imperialism, colonialism and Zionism.

Dr Winter said that the GDR people highly appreciate Syria's role under the leadership of Al-Asad. This will influence the talks and the atmosphere in which they will be held. The talks, he added, will define a new stage of close cooperation between the two countries, the two peoples and parties. The GDR ambassador added that the GDR people are interested in the achievements realized by the Syrian people, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, in the political, social and economic spheres.

The GDR ambassador pointed to President al-Asad's affirmation, during the conference of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, of Syria's firm determination to oppose attempts aimed at concluding an imperialist settlement of the Middle East conflict. He also pointed to the reaffirmations by Erich Honeker, chairman of the GDR State Council, of his country's continuing solidarity with the just Arab cause.

AL-ASAD TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO USSR IN OCTOBER

JN011950Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers, President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, will pay an official and friendly visit to the USSR in early October.

It is noteworthy that President Hafiz al-Asad will pay this visit in accordance with the resolutions of the steadfast and confrontation summit conference, which was held in Damascus from 20 to 23 September.

VIETNAMESE CP DELEGATION MEETS LEADERS, ISSUES STATEMENT

Meets With Al-Asad

JN301947Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] At 1330 today President Hafiz al-Asad received the Vietnamese Communist Party delegation under Comrade Ha Ke Tan, Central Committee member of the Vietnamese Communist Party and minister in charge of presidential affairs of the Vietnamese Cabinet [title as received].

The meeting was attended by Comrade Taha al-Khayrat, Ba'th regional command member and minister of local administration, and Comrade (Vu Tanh), Vietnamese ambassador in Damascus.

The delegation head conveyed to President al-Asad a message from Ton Duc Thang, president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, reaffirming the continued support of his country for the struggle of the Syrian Arab people. Discussion centered on relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and the means to develop them and on the joint struggle of the Syrian and Vietnamese peoples.

President al-Asad reaffirmed Syria's continued support for the struggle of the Vietnamese people. President al-Asad asked Ha Ke Tan to convey his and the Syrian people's greetings to President Ton Duc Thang, the Vietnamese party and people.

Delegation Scores As-Sadat

JN3022115Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] The delegation of the Vietnamese Communist Party and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam currently visiting Syria has stressed that the capitulationist policy led by As-Sadat, beginning with his visit to occupied Jerusalem and ending with the Camp David summit, has immensely harmed international efforts exerted to achieve a Middle East peace settlement.

At the final session of talks with the Syrian Arab side this evening, the Vietnamese delegation expressed its appreciation of the achievements of the revolution in Syria, particularly after the corrective movement led by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. The delegation also expressed appreciation of the deep understanding shown by the Syrian people for the Vietnamese people's cause and the Syrian people's complete support for the Vietnamese people's struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

Prime Minister Receives Vietnamese

JN012205Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi this afternoon received the Vietnamese Communist delegation led by Comrade Ha Ke Tan, Central Committee member of the party and minister in charge of presidential affairs in the Vietnamese Cabinet [title as received]. After welcoming the guest delegation and discussing bilateral relations and their further development, the prime minister explained the latest developments in the area and the consequences of As-Sadat's capitulationist policy, which is a threat to the real aspirations for just peace in the area.

This policy, Al-Halabi stressed, is hostile to the Arab nation. It is no more than another attempt to conspire against the Arab cause and the Palestinian people. Al-Halabi added: The steadfastness and confrontation set forth by the Damascus conference derives its strength from the fact that it expresses the aims of the Arab nation and enjoys the support of the masses. Al-Halabi affirmed that Syria, under the leadership of Hafiz al-Asad, will continue to be the stronghold of Arab struggle against every capitulationist conspiracy or aggressive tendency and in defense of the Palestinians' legitimate national right to their homeland until all the occupied Arab territories are retrieved.

The head of the visiting delegation showed his deep understanding of the Arab cause and expressed his country's support for this cause and Syria's position in facing all challenges. He also expressed his great appreciation of the progress made by the country in economic and social development, the achievements it has made, and the progress in the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in all fields.

ASSEMBLY DELEGATION CONCLUDES CZECHOSLOVAKIA VISIT

JN300751Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--The People's Assembly delegation led by Speaker Mahmud Hadid returned to Damascus last night following an 8-day visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic at the invitation of Alois Indra, chairman of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly. The delegation was received at the airport by Muhammad 'Adil Jamus.

During his stopovers in Budapest and Sofia, Mahmud Hadid met with the chairmen of the national assemblies in both Hungary and Bulgaria. He discussed with them the Middle East issue and the recent events in the area, particularly following the Camp David capitulationist agreement. Hadid explained Syria's position toward these events. The chairmen of the Hungarian and of the Bulgarian national assemblies renewed their invitations to have a Syrian People's Assembly delegation visit their countries. The dates of the visits will be fixed in the near future.

In a statement on the outcome of his visit to Czechoslovakia, the People's Assembly speaker said that his visit was successful and fruitful. He said: The visit has enabled us to exchange various views with Czechoslovak officials. He added: The two sides have expressed the common desire to develop and strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries in all spheres. He said: Our views were congruent on the Middle East situation and on the nature of the Arab-Israeli struggle. The Czechoslovak friends explained the impact of the serious situation in the area on world peace as a result of the Camp David summit.

Hadid said: The Czechoslovak friends praised the march of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. They stressed the importance of the front's resolutions. The Czechoslovak friends reiterated their support for the Syrian people in their struggle to achieve their objectives of liberation and the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to determine their future.

While in Prague, Hadid met with Syrian students and briefed them on the Arab and international political situation and the new events in the area.

BA'TH, CYPRIOT PARTIES ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT

JN301919Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Cypriot Progressive Party of the Working People (AKEL) have vehemently condemned the Camp David agreements. The two parties consider these agreements treason to the Arab cause; implementation of the capitulationist policy, led by As-Sadat, which imperialism and Zionism are trying to impose on the Arabs; a blow to Arab solidarity and Arab struggle unity directed against the imperialist and Zionist conspiracy; and destruction of the current international efforts to find a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict.

This was contained in a joint statement issued today on the results of the visit to Syria by the AKEL delegation under Comrade Andreas Fandis, party assistant secretary general, from 23-28 September at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command.

The statement noted that the two parties consider that the Camp David agreements legalize the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, ignore the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and bypass or deny UN resolutions. The two parties stressed that the just and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict can be achieved only by Israel's complete withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights, under the PLO leadership and including their right to return to their homeland, their right to self-determination and their right to establish their independent state in their homeland.

The statement noted that during their talks, the two parties attached great importance to the Middle East situation, in particular the developments resulting from As-Sadat's treasonous visit to occupied Jerusalem, the Camp David meeting and all the humiliating agreements connected with it.

The two parties hailed the third summit of the Pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation recently held in Damascus and the positive resolutions it passed. The two parties reaffirmed their support for the front as the only effective means for foiling the conspiratorial and capitulationist schemes led by As-Sadat and supported by imperialism and Zionism. The AKEL delegation expressed appreciation of the role Syria is playing in this front and Syria's decisive confrontation of these schemes.

The two parties discussed the painful developments and events through which Lebanon has passed. The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party informed AKEL about the efforts which Syria has exerted and still is exerting to restore stability and security to Lebanon and to confront conspiracies concocted by imperialism, Zionism and their allies against Lebanon aimed at dividing Lebanon into sectarian states in order to justify the Zionist presence in the area, deal a blow to the Palestinian resistance and put an end to its presence in Lebanon.

The AKEL delegation expressed its solidarity with the Ba'th Party in preserving the unity of the Lebanese people and territory and enabling the Lebanese Government to extend its control and sovereignty over all the Lebanese territory and to protect the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon. The AKEL delegation also expressed support to Syria for its efforts to strike at imperialist and Zionist conspiracies in Lebanon.

The statement noted that the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party stressed its support for the unity of Cyprus, noninterference in its internal affairs and the integrity of its sovereignty, independence and freedom. The two parties condemned all attempts aimed at partitioning Cyprus. They called for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the island and the complete implementation of UN resolutions.

The AKEL delegation left Damascus yesterday evening following talks with a Ba'th delegation led by Comrade Fawwazz Sayyagh, Ba'th Party National Command member and official in charge of external relations. The discussions took place in an atmosphere of complete friendship, trust and understanding of the circumstances of the struggle waged by the two parties against world imperialism and Zionism.

LIBYA

AT-TURAYKI CONTINUES BRIEFINGS ON CAMP DAVID

LD291016Y Tripoli JANA in English 0910 GMT 29 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, September 29, JANA--The Foreign Secretariat is continuing to conduct its contacts with friendly and sisterly states to brief them on the outcome of the 3rd summit of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front which was held in Damascus last week and to explain the Jamahiriyah's rejectionist stand towards the "Stable David" accords and the Egyptian president's concessions.

Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary, yesterday met with the Arab ambassadors to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and informed them of the results of the third summit of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, as well as the current situation in the Arab homeland.

The foreign secretary explained that the Arab nation rejects such agreements as those signed at "Stable David" and emphasized that the Arab nation is undergoing a grave stage which necessitates surpassing the stage of issuing statements to the stage of taking practical measures to affront the conspiracy to which the Arab nation is being subjugated.

Dr. at-Turayki said that the Jamahiriyah had drawn attention to the seriousness of the visit by the Egyptian president to Jerusalem and its grave consequences. The accords signed at "Stable David" were one of these consequences.

The foreign secretary re-affirmed to Arab ambassadors that the current stage the Arab nation is undergoing necessitates that collective or individual practical steps be taken to frustrate the conspiracy and eliminate its consequences. In this connection, the foreign secretary referred to the need for overriding differences and unifying efforts to face the new grave situation in the Arab homeland, which constitutes a threat to the very existence of the Arab nation.

AL-QADHDHAFI, AL-BAKR HAVE PHONE CONVERSATION

LD012226Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] JANA has learned that President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr of Iraq had a telephone conversation with brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi today about the current situation in the Arab region. President al-Bakr explained to the brother colonel Iraq's proposals for facing up to this situation.

ERITREAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

LD291936Y Tripoli JANA in English 1737 GMT 29 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, September 29, JANA--Mr. Ahmed Muhammed Nasser, the secretary-general of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front (EPLF) last night arrived in Tripoli on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

He was welcomed at Tripoli International Airport by the assistant head of the Arab Liaison Bureau at the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress and some of the bureau members.

Mr. Nasser made a statement to a JANA reporter condemning the "Stable David" treacherous agreements. He said, "We condemn the results of the "Stable David" conference, stating our committed original position to the Palestinian Arab people. He added, "the Egyptian president represents only himself and it is not possible to deal with the Egyptian matters unless the Palestinian people have said their word through their legitimate representative, the P.L.O. [quotation marks as received]

He stressed his front's support for the decisions made by the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

Received by Liaison Head

LD010946Y Tripoli JANA in English 0817 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, October 1, JANA--The head of the Arab Liaison Bureau in the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress received at his office last night the chairman of the Revolutionary Council for the Liberation of Eritrea who is currently visiting the Jamahiriyah. The meeting was attended by the liberation movements section head and the representative of the Eritrian revolution in the Jamahiriyah.

TRIPOLI STATION CITES BEIRUT REPORT ON SHI'ITE IMAM

LD302112Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 Sep 78 LD

[Text] In a dispatch from Beirut citing information being circulated among persons close to the Supreme Shi'ite Council in Lebanon, Kuwait's AL-ANBA' reported today that it had been learned that a room in one of Rome's grand hotels had been booked in the name of Imam Musa as-Sadr and that his bag and passport were found in the room. Another room was found to contain the bags and clothes of his companion, Shaykh Muhammad Ya'qub. Both their passports were found to have been stamped by Rome airport authorities, indicating that the two men had entered Italy by way of Rome airport.

PEOPLE'S CONGRESS DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MOSCOW

LD281120Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli--A delegation of the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress left Tripoli International Airport this morning for Moscow. The delegation is led by 'Umar al-Hamidi, secretary general of the Permanent Secretariat. At the airport the delegation was seen off by members of the General People's Congress, the GDR ambassador and the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Tripoli.

In a statement to a JANA correspondent, the president of the public prosecutor's office of the Arab People's Court and member of the delegation said: We are leaving Tripoli for the Soviet Union and then for the GDR and Poland to hold meetings and consultations with our friends in these countries to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our Arab people and the peoples of those countries. We will also acquaint them with our stand toward what is currently happening in the Arab arena with regard to conspiracies against the Arab cause.

He expressed his hope that the visit will yield good results that will contribute toward the further strengthening of cohesion among all progressive and patriotic forces in these countries.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN ON SAHARA, LEBANON, OTHER ISSUES

LD291146Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Sep 78 LD

[Interview granted by Morocco's King Hassan II to AL WATAN AL-'ARABI, date not specified--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Majesty, do you believe that the issue of the Moroccan Sahara is once again becoming critical after the relative calm that prevailed during the Mauritanian coup?

Answer: Indeed, the events in Mauritania which led to the 10 July coup were events that had solely local causes. This is so because, as you know, Mauritania did not take a break to analyze and reflect on its situation after its independence. Mauritania, like a number of other states, believed that the best thing for it to do then was to choose a way, an ideology, a methodology and methods of ruling to create a political-social system. At the time it was easier for developing countries to choose a leftist course because this course is an easy one to take. As to the other courses, these require bravery and a tradition of government. After it achieved independence, Mauritania chose a leftist ideology, and had the situation and political relations between Mauritania and Morocco been normal, perhaps, Mauritania would not have chosen to throw itself into the embrace of what it called socialism. It would have found in Morocco examples, maturity and help that would have made it adopt a middle road without risks.

Then came the Islamic summit conference and a chance for Morocco to join with Mauritania in an effort for both countries to solve their problem within the fold of the Islamic family, which was meeting for the first time since the birth of Islam.

Then came the Saharan problem and the demands of the Sahara. Morocco has always demanded its Sahara since independence. Proofs and evidence indicate without dispute that the Sahara has always been Moroccan. However, Algeria, which did not want Morocco to have common borders with Africa--I do not say with Mauritania but with Africa--Algeria, which has become accustomed to seeing Morocco encircled either between itself and the sea, or between the Sahara and the sea, did not want to see Morocco stretch to Europe in the north through Spain and then a reconciliation with Spain, and did not want to see Morocco set down roots to the south of it in noble Africa. Therefore, it tried to kill two birds with one stone.

In the Sahara dispute, Algeria wants to force us to remain in a continuing quarrel with Spain; thus, our link in the north would have been severed and would have forced us, on the other hand, to remain in a continuing struggle over the Sahara with Mauritania. In this way it would have cut our roots in the south, and Morocco would have remained encircled between the Atlantic Ocean and Algeria. Here, the Algerian officials planned the game from the political point of view, and it would have succeeded had they known how to behave. They made Mauritania claim something it had never demanded: the Sahara. Mauritania has become a party to the conflict by demanding the Sahara.

The big mistake the Algerian planners made was to believe that agreement between Morocco and Mauritania was impossible. That was the basis of their policy. But the impossible was achieved and the agreement between the two countries struck.

After the green march and the recovery of the Sahara, events took place that led to Mauritania finding itself facing a situation it had not planned for. Mauritania found itself facing financial and military necessities which it had not anticipated. Proof of this is that when the Sahara dispute presented itself the Mauritanian Army had 2,000 men. Now it has 18,000 soldiers and to have become a force of such a size in 3 years seems to have been a mighty task--beyond human capacity. Internally, Mauritania, which required French assistance at first, Algerian aid later, found itself exhausted and on the point of collapse after it has severed its relations with France on the one hand and with Algeria on the other.

Question: Did the change in the nature of the regime in Mauritania lead to the beginning of a change in Mauritanian-Moroccan relations in light of the confirmation by the leaders of the new coup that they look on the Sahara problem in a new way?

Answer: Indeed, relations between Morocco and Mauritania on the one hand, and the obligations and the written documents which are binding on both countries on the other, make Morocco an ally of Mauritania, whether during war or peace, and all the time that the path of war or the search for peace does not harm the Moroccan entity and its sacred possessions. If Mauritania wants to fight, Morocco is on its side, and if Mauritania wants peace, Morocco is on its side militarily, because even military force constitutes one of the elements in the search for peace. Morocco stands on its side diplomatically, and with all its capabilities, and through my use of contacts with heads of state I know. If Mauritania wants to seek a peaceful solution, we must first stand by it, and we must provide it with advice, advice that insures that peace does not become capitulation, or so that such peace does not lead to a series of coups and the creation of an atmosphere of lack of security in the region.

Thus we are with Maruitania, whether during war or peace. If Mauritania sees that it is best for it to do what it wants with a share or part of its territory, it is free and within its sovereign rights to do so. The role of Morocco in particular is to tell it how, or the ways that should be used in its operation. That operation must become an element of stability and not an impetus for a loss of balance in Mauritania, and consequently in Senegal, Mali, Morocco and even in Algeria. As I see it, this is the role that should be played by Morocco. And this is the way it is seen by all Moroccan politicians, army commanders and Moroccan public opinion in general.

Question: There are Moroccan forces in Mauritania. What is their present status and what is their fate in view of the changing circumstances?

Answer: The Moroccan forces in Mauritania have a legal presence, first because they went to Mauritania at the request of the highest Mauritanian authorities, and second because this Mauritanian request was based on a legal agreement on common defense signed by Morocco and Mauritania.

When the Mauritanian authorities request Morocco to reduce its forces or recall all its forces, Morocco will respond to the request of the Mauritanian authorities. However, I believe nothing will change in the region, and this is what the new officials, headed by President Ould Saleck, understand very well. The problem still exists and the war still hangs over that region because truce is not peace. But because there has been no change in any objective or basic elements, the Mauritanian leaders have not asked us to withdraw any soldiers or reduce any forces. The Moroccan forces are, in the first place, at the disposal of the Mauritanian command as they have always been.

Question: There is an agreement between you and France under which France undertook to supply Morocco with a number of aircraft. Has France fulfilled all its commitments in this respect?

Answer: France has honored all its commitments and has lived up to the level of relations and friendship between us.

Question: Some diplomatic circles have stated that the contacts made by the French with the various parties to the conflict are aimed at the holding of a tripartite summit conference in Paris between Morocco, Mauritania and Algeria with the participation of France. How true is this?

Answer: There is no basis of truth in this.

Question: Some other quarters have said that the United States is at present attempting to mediate to solve the Saharan problem.

Answer: (?I wish this.) Had the United States undertaken such a role, we would have felt assured. Only he who is well acquainted with the question and with the gravity of the situation can mediate. Unfortunately, however, the United States, the world's number one power, is not familiar with the question nor its history, and does not know where the right lies. One of the aims of my visit to the United States was to acquaint President Carter with the matter and explain the issue to U.S. officials. The question is not just one between Algeria and Morocco, but it goes far beyond relations between them.

Question: Your Majesty, one of the ideas being raised provides for the establishment of positive, peaceful and lasting cooperation between Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania. There is an idea for the joint exploitation of the natural wealth of the Sahara through the financing of such a project by some Arab and non-Arab quarters, within the framework of a general political accord. What is your position in this?

Answer: The consideration and implementation of such an idea demands that those responsible should be fully aware of the realities we live under in the twentieth century. Naturally, every country must have its borders for the sake of its dignity, postal services, judiciary, taxes, sciences and nationality. But from the military and defense aspects, borders no longer have the same importance that they had in the past. Missiles are not the most dangerous weapons today, and neither is the atomic bomb. It is the transistor radio. Through this means, one regime can attack another methodically and technically, thus turning the transistor radio carried by every citizen into a bomb in the pocket of its carrier. Hence, borders are no longer an element in material security but have become only a moral element. If we accept such an analysis, then we must look at the map: neither Morocco alone, nor Algeria alone, nor Mauritania alone. We must not view these three countries as having different colors. Rather, let these three countries have only one color: a combination of yellow, green and white. Let us look upon their mountains, plains, rivers, ports, costs, mines, wealth and their trade.

As I have stated in the past, the consideration of a joint exploitation project demands noble thinking, analysis and self-assurance. I, personally, am reassured. I know my country and my people very well. The work on such a project will take generations. Even if I were to start it, I would rest assured about the consequences, because I know that my country and my people and my regime are sincere and would naturally be prepared to honor our commitments under such a joint venture. However, those who are not reassured or who are not confident of their political future cannot be expected to rise to such a level.

Question: How will you tackle the problem of the government of the so-called Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, and what will happen to those Saharans who participate in the POLISARIO Front?

Answer: The solution is easy. If they accept, I will--in accordance with the constitution--ask the prime minister to reshuffle the government and appoint them as ministers in the Moroccan Government. This is no problem. It will only take 5 mintues before they become ministers in our country.

Question: What do you think of the principle of self-determination which Algeria advocates in its support for the POLISARIO Front?

Answer: The right of self-determination in fact is a two-edged sword. The right of self-determination can never be a law for partitioning. Laws are not intended to make divisions. Their objective is unity. This is the way I view self-determination.

Question: What will be the fate of the committee of wise men formed by the recent OAU summit under the chairmanship of Sudanese President Ja-far Muhammad Numayri? Is there anyone who will obstruct the holding of an extraordinary African meeting to discuss the Saharan question?

Answer: The question of the extraordinary meeting is no longer under discussion because the question is now in the hands of the committee of wise men. We have not hesitated for one moment in accepting the choice President Numayri made. Yesterday, I learned from Mauritanian President Ould Saleck that he also approved it without hesitation. Now it remains for Algeria to accept. I am not sure if Algeria has accepted, has responded or not. Only God knows. I feel that President Numayri should call for a meeting of this committee as soon as possible.

Question: What is the nature of relations between Morocco and the USSR in light of the accord on the joint exploitation of phosphates and marine fishing, which was described as the accord of the century? Will this accord lead to further developments that could lead to the possibility of diversifying Moroccan armaments in case of difficulty in security arms from Western sources?

Answer: Moroccan-Soviet relations have always been very good. There is no better proof of this than our celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Moscow and Rabat. The economic agreement on phosphates is the crowning of very deep, fruitful and open work between the two sides.

Moscow knows that at no time will we ever become communists, just as I know that Lebanon cannot tomorrow become a Sunni Moslem state. In this respect, matters are extremely clear, but as I said before, differences of ideology should not be obstacles in the way of dealings between the USSR and the world community; otherwise, there would be difficulty of movement.

We personally believe that it is essential to develop economic and trade relations between ourselves and the USSR without either side abandoning any of its ideologies and creeds. As to arms, the USSR has never withheld arms from us. It has been ready and is still ready and will, I believe, remain ready in the future to supply us with any type of arms. The question depends on our asking for them.

Question: Your Majesty, the fixing of the date for your official visit to the United States was accompanied by some repercussions, which intimated that clouds in the atmosphere of relations between the two countries had been the cause for twice postponing the visit. It was stated that this was owing to differences of interpretation between the United States and Morocco on the question of sovereignty over the Sahara. It was also stated that this was owing to America's failure to respond to Moroccan demands for arms. What can you say on this?

Answer: We must know that we are living in a world filled with propaganda, rumors and farces. Unfortunately, it is in the nature of the human mind not to accept facts. We only believe in lies. All this is nothing but lies and rumors.

The first date was canceled for health reasons. I had undergone an operation which did not permit me to leave the country. The second time was when President as-Sadat embarked on his initiative and visited Jerusalem. He did not consult us. His visit to Jerusalem would have coincided with my visit to Washington. Thus, my visit and his would have given people the impression there was a joint plan between me and him. I was to travel to the United States 2 days after his visit to Jerusalem. So I postponed my visit, so that it could not have been said that President as-Sadat and King Hassan II are plotting against the Arab cause and the Palestinian question, and so on and so forth. I canceled the visit and the Americans showed a clear understanding.

Question: Who, in your opinion, is responsible for the deterioration of conditions in the wounded Arab Lebanon?

At this point, the Moroccan monarch paused, as though reviewing a long series of memories, views and stands and said: First, I believe the ones to be blamed in the first place are the Lebanese themselves. Let us assume that they were not the ones who created the conditions they are in. But when these conditions were imposed on them, they gave the impression that they had found what they had been longing for. They have taken no action, made no national attempt to put an end to the conditions and events in Lebanon. But they declared that they are behind the plot to divide Lebanon and that the plot was not hatched by foreigners who are seeking to divide Lebanon.

Second, there is no doubt that the Palestinian military elements and the Syrian military elements are not making it easy to find a solution, cool the atmosphere or calm the emotions.

All this turns Lebanon, even if peace were to come between the Arabs and Israel, into a fifth column, which is the enemy of all states in the area. It will always be a source of concern, and we will always look upon it as bomb hanging over the leaders of that area. My advice to the Lebanese is to redress the situation.

ZAIRIAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH MOBUTU MESSAGE

LD012352Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpt] Zairian roving ambassador [name indistinct] arrived this evening with a letter from President Mobutu Sese Seko to His Majesty King Hassan II. He made a statement at Sale-Rabat airport, in which he said that he had made a tour of west African states before arriving in Morocco. The Zairian president had entrusted him with a private message to His Majesty King Hassan II.

SUDAN

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES LIBYAN AMBASSADOR

LD291136Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Sep 78 LD/EA

[Text] This afternoon Mr 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president of the republic, received in his office at the Council of Ministers headquarters His Excellency the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's ambassador to Khartoum. His excellency the ambassador conveyed to the first vice president a verbal message from his government pertaining to the developing bilateral relations between the two countries and ways to consolidate them. The message also put forward other questions of mutual interest for consideration and an exchange of views.

The first vice president of the republic expressed to his excellency the Libyan ambassador the thanks of the Sudanese Government and people to the Jamahiriyah's people and government for the facilities it granted which led to the splendid success of the mission of Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, head of the State Security Office for the liquidation of Sudanese camps in Libya.

The first vice president also assured his excellency the Libyan ambassador that this joint action by the Sudanese and Libyan sides is proof of mutual confidence between the two brotherly countries, in addition to the fact that it confirms the joint desire to eliminate all manifestations of disagreement between Sudan and the Jamahiriyah and eagerness to continue with earnest efforts to develop relations between the two peoples in various fields.

Mr 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim asked his excellency the Libyan ambassador to convey to President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the brothers in the Jamahiriyah the Sudanese Government's and people's thanks.

The meeting also dealt with the joint and continuous efforts being made by Sudan and the Jamahiriyah to entrench and consolidate national unity in the Republic of Chad. Agreement was reached on a joint concept of what can be done to bring about FROLINAT's [Chadian National Liberation Front] participation in the march of national reconciliation in Chad. Mr 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim also stressed Sudan's keenness to implement the As-Sabhah-Benghazi agreement in order to broaden the base of the Charter of National Unity in the Republic of Chad. He also assured him that Sudan wants this action to be a joint action by the two countries so as to help the brothers in Chad through all the stages that will lead them to comprehensive national unity and internal stability and to work hand-in-hand for the sake of construction and development instead of remaining in conflict and disagreement. The first vice president of Sudan stressed Sudan's interest in the question of Libyan-Chadian relations in view of the fact that the return to normal relations between them is a vital matter inseparable from any effort to achieve national unity in Chad.

He also expressed Sudan's firm stand on the need for African states to strive to solve their internal problems by (?purely) African means, without foreign interference and with mutual trust, good will and good neighborliness, in line with the OAU Charter and the resolutions of the 15th African summit conference in Khartoum.

TUNISIA

ARRIVAL OF ALFRED ATHERTON REPORTED

LD011943Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Mr Alfred Atherton, U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, arrived in Tunis this afternoon for a visit as part of his present tour to some Arab capitals to explain the results of the Camp David summit.

The guest was greeted by Abdelmajid Karoui, director of protocol; Taieb Sahbani, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; and by Edward William Mulcahy, U.S. ambassador to Tunisia.

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES ON VISIT

LD011942Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Libyan Foreign Secretary Dr Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki arrived in Tunis this afternoon. His visit comes within the framework of the continuous contacts between the two countries at all levels. The Libyan foreign secretary expressed his conviction that the stage currently being experienced by the Arab nation requires the two countries to exchange views and coordinate moves.

He stressed the telephone calls that had taken place between President Bourguiba and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and between the foreign ministers of the two countries. He also underlined the continuous contacts between the two countries within the framework of the strengthening of bilateral relations, and the coordination of efforts in Arab and international spheres.

Dr Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki was welcomed at Carthage International Airport by Taieb Sahbani, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; Abdelmajid Karoui, director of protocol; and by the Libyan high commissioner to Tunisia, 'Abd al-Hamid as-Sayd az-Zintani.

WESTERN SAHARA

CONCLUSION OF POLISARIO CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD291323Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] The fourth general popular conference of the Popular Front for the Liberation of As-Saqiyah al-Hamra and Wadi adh-Dhahab [POLISARIO] ended its work at Wadi Nasir in the liberated territories of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic last night by re-electing Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz secretary general of the POLISARIO, and Bashir Mustafa al-Wali assistant secretary general. Members of the front's Political Bureau were also reelected.

The conference approved a political statement, a national action program and a number of recommendations. The political statement included several points including the following:

The front's continued adherence to the cease-fire in Mauritania and the announcement of three necessary conditions for the present Mauritanian Government to review the policy of supreme treachery pursued by the regime of Ould Daddah.

These conditions are: Recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's sovereignty within its internationally recognized borders and respect for its territorial unity; recovery of the area occupied by Mauritania and the withdrawal of Mauritanian forces to the 1960 borders between Mauritania and the Western Sahara. The political statement also confirmed that any settlement of the Western Sahara problem must be based on the Saharan people's right to self-determination, independence and sovereignty.

The political statement of the Saharan conference confirmed that any settlement of the Western Sahara problem that does not respect the will of the Saharan people will fail. Also, any initiative must take into consideration the existence of the Saharan people and their right to self-determination and independence. It added that the United Nations and the OAU are the possible framework for finding a comprehensive solution to the Western Sahara crisis.

Conditions for Settlement

LD301930Y Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 30 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpts] Oued En Nasr, APS--The fourth general people's conference of the POLISARIO Front, which was held from 25 to 28 September in Oued En Nasr in the liberated territories of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] adopted a political manifesto, a program of national action, the republic's constitution and several other recommendations. The congress in another connection adopted a line of strategy for the future. After having recalled and analyzed the victories scored over the last 2 years on the military and diplomatic levels, the manifesto gives the four conditions laid down by the POLISARIO Front as the basis of any durable and just solution of the conflict in the Western Sahara. The conditions are:

1--Recognition of the national sovereignty of the Saharan people over all their territory and respect for their legitimate rights to self-determination and independence;

2--Recognition of the territorial integrity of the Saharan fatherland in accordance with the principles of the historic frontiers inherited from colonial times and recognized internationally;

3--Respect for the principle of the nonuse of force by the SDAR's neighbors in their relations with the Saharan state and noninterference in its internal affairs;

4--Respect for the principle of [word indistinct] settlements (?by peaceful means) on the part of the neighbors of the SDAR.

Recalling elsewhere that the cessation of the military operations which was applied unilaterally by the POLISARO Front on 12 July 1978 has "created new conditions and the dynamics for peace which should be used in the interest of the peoples of the region," the manifesto stresses that the cessation of military operations--which has just been upheld by the session of the fourth conference--is a precious opportunity for the Mauritanian people and their new government to revise the policy of aggression and high treason waged by the previous government.

The relations of historic solidarity and the links of fraternity existing between the peoples of the Arab Maghreb, and essentially between the Saharan and Mauritanian peoples, the manifesto adds, should not be exploited [passage indistinct]. The manifesto notes that (?it) is quite "necessary for the struggle against colonialism, expansionism and aggression." In another connection the conference also decided to send letters to the secretary general of the United Nations and that of the OAU.

W. BANK MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS NO ORDERS TO DISBAND

TA290953Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Acting Egyptian Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali says Israel has made a voluntary commitment to end the military administration of the West Bank within 3 months. Ghali was speaking to an AP reporter in Cairo.

In Jerusalem, our reporter says the military government has received no instructions about disbanding. Work is proceeding as usual.

PATROL BOATS STOP TERRORIST ATTACK ON ELAT

NC011135Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, near the Di Zahav beach, an IDF naval boat captured seven terrorists who were cruising toward Elat.

Our military correspondent, Roni Dani'el, says that the patrol boat ordered the terrorists to stop, then opened fire on them when they failed to obey.

The terrorist boat, which carried a large quantity of explosives, blew up and sank. Seven terrorists, three of them wounded, were captured. Our troops did not sustain any casualties.

The terrorists, who belong to Fatah, admitted that they were planning to shell Elat and blow up their boat--together with the explosives and Katyushas on board--on the Elat beach. The terrorists had planned to escape later on board a rubber dingy, apparently to 'Aqaba.

LA'AM DECIDES NOT TO LEAVE COALITION

TA011451Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 1 Oct 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Members of the La'am Knesset faction decided not to withdraw from the coalition or from the Likud. Soon the faction will decide who will be its candidate to replace Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Yiga'el Horowitz, who resigned at the end of last week. The candidates for this portfolio, or the communications portfolio, vacant since the resignation of Me'ir 'Amit, are MK's Amnon Lin, Zalman Shoval, Yig'al Kohen and Ehud Olmert.

At the end of the La'am faction session on Friday, the following statement was issued: "The faction has heard Minister Yiga'el Horowitz's explanations of the motives for his resignation from the cabinet and has expressed its identification with the basics of his public battle. The La'am faction expresses its hope that Horowitz could once again represent it in the cabinet in the future. The possibility of withdrawing from the coalition was not discussed. The La'am center will convene for a political debate probably during the Feast of Tabernacles holiday."

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL

NC011137Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Oct 78 NC

[Text] This morning, the prime minister was discharged from the hospital and left for home. His doctor said he is in good condition and that he will rest for a few days.

EXTREMIST MAYORS REJECT ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENTS

TA011440Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 1 Oct 78 TA

[Text] An assembly convened by the PLO-oriented West Bank mayors to oppose the Camp David agreements ended in East Jerusalem. Heads of professional unions and charity organizations, some of whom are known as supporters of Jordan, also joined the assembly. As expected, the participants issued an announcement according to which the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people. They sent a congratulatory message to the states that refused to accept the Camp David agreements. They made a long statement condemning the autonomy and the Israeli-Egyptian agreement. Correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari says that this document was also sent to Alfred Atherton during his visit in Jerusalem.

W. BANK JORDAN SUPPORTERS OPPOSE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

TA291047Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[Text] Supporters of Jordan in the territories have already engaged in a struggle against the autonomy and the Camp David agreements. A meeting of Jordan's supporters among the public leaders was held last night in Jerusalem, headed by the members of the Supreme Moslem Council, the participants passed very critical decisions against the autonomy.

Prior to that, the supporters of Jordan suggested accepting a very firm decision against the autonomy. This was suggested during the meeting of the chambers of commerce. However, that proposal was not adopted because the majority thought that commerce should not be mixed with policy and also because they thought it was too early to determine an unequivocal stance.

Our correspondent says that those involved in this struggle against the autonomy and the Camp David agreements are personalities who derive their political inspiration directly from the Jordanian Government.

MINISTERS' SYMPOSIUM ON CAMP DAVID ASSESSMENTS

TA012017Y Tel Aviv HAZOFE in Hebrew 1 Oct 78 pp 3, 4 TA

[Symposium with Ministers Dr Yosef Burg, Zevulun Hammer and Aharon Abu-Hazera and HAZOFE panel consisting of Shabtai Dani'el, Ya'aqov Edelstein and Yehoshu'a Shemesh--date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] How do you assess the Camp David agreements from a political, military and rural settlement viewpoint? What will immigration, absorption, economy, society and the law look like with the ratification of the peace treaty?

[Burg] Not a thread was torn--but a door has been opened. The chance of a dialog facilitates a beginning; political wisdom has to take care of the rest. If the peace treaty results in a peaceful atmosphere, then this will be conducive to economic prosperity, to mutual trade relations, increased tourism, immigration and so forth. However, I see the most important thing in the political tranquillity, in the ability to influence the whole region.

For the first time it appears possible to reach peace with Egypt within a short time. There has been no such possibility for the last 30 years. During all those years peace has not even been discussed.

If the Camp David agreements are discussed, one has to ask: What is the alternative? Have we forgotten that it was the Geneva conference that had been at issue? Have we forgotten that the Geneva conference is a pan-Arab choir with the UN secretary general and the Russians in attendance? Which is better--to have direct talks with Egypt or confront the entire Arab world?

The value of a military victory--unaccompanied by diplomatic support--is very poor indeed. An interdependence exists between nations. Israel is afflicted by total international isolation. From time to time the U.S. veto saves us from denunciations in the UN Security Council. In rejecting the Camp David accords we would be also running the risk of a possible erosion of the support of world and U.S. Jewry, of an erosion of our standing in the world public opinion and of a considerable worsening of our relations with the United States. If no honest effort is made to reach peace, our isolation in the international arena is likely to continue. Peace must be utilized as a lever to improve our international standing. The African continent is apt to become reopened to Israel.

I am not saying that I am enthusiastic about the agreement, but one has to see the advantages in them. The IDF will be sitting in the Jordan Valley and on the mountain ridges as well--there is no argument about the fact that Jerusalem is one and indivisible. This was unheard of a year ago--there is no mention of the PLO or of an Arab army in Judaea and Samaria. There is no mention of any transfer of settlements in Judaea and Samaria--and we shall demand the planning of a large-scale settlement project. We have no right whatsoever to say "no" to an endeavor to make peace. If our hands are less bound in the south, we shall be able to be stronger in the negotiations, as well as in our perserverance in the center and in the north too.

The peace negotiations offer difficulties, but we have to try to face up to them. We, as the National Religious Party, have an important challenge in reinforcing the Zionist, pioneering, social and religious values.

[Hammer] It is still difficult to offer any assessments or exact predictions. I will say that what has been achieved at Camp David is an extremely steep and painful price for an attempt at a chance of peace with Egypt. There is a tragic gap between two truth of Eretz Yisra'el in our generation: the ambition for peace and the ambition for settling the land. Both are words of the living God, and there is no echo from heaven to lead us, and it is up to us to make hair-splitting decisions about the right thing. We are treating it in the spirit of the high holidays, with a reverence whose meaning is twofold: fear, anxiety and apprehension of judgement day on the one hand, and awe and adoration for the Supreme Divinity on the other.

The road is still long, filled with obstacles and dangers. It is a new and unpaved road that we are daring to enter without being certain where it will lead us.

If the thing succeeds and we do reach peace with Egypt, we shall have to take in our stride everything that is implied in the life of a spiritual minority in the midst of a wide open region of a different religion and culture. The fostering of Jewish social values will have a renewed meaning, on which will depend the success of peace from our point of view.

Peace is not made between generals and statesmen only, but is conditioned by and dependent on the hearts of citizens and children--this we shall also have to handle, if peace is reached on both sides of the border.

The pioneering spirit of the settlers which is liable to suffer a hard blow by the difficult decision, has to be propped up by turning the settlers into the mainstay of society and its most prominent factor; we shall have to put at the center of our lives the pioneering spirit of social and educational values. We shall have to put a great deal of effort in the settling of Judaea and Samaria and insure the prosperity of the Golan settlements as well.

We shall have to deal earnestly with the many ills with which we are afflicted, the importance of which we may perhaps come to realize, without submitting to the temptation of new circumstances and without being misled by the new conditions.

If, while trying to live in the era of peace, we manage to tackle the domestic social revolution successfullly, that will be a blessing on every level. For this we have to prepare, being aware of the dangers of a changed situation.

[Abu-Hazera] It is most difficult in these first days after the conclusion of the accord, since they constitute only the basis of the framework that has to be further elaborated in the negotiations. If we take this framework and the agreement between us and Egypt, and assume that this is only the basis, then in my view the State of Israel can say that this is a basis for a favorable defensive structure that could defend the country and its southern border. There are two reasons for this: A) peace in itself is a defensive asset; B) the various military arrangements appear satisfactory under the existing circumstances.

Politically, signing a peace treaty with Egypt according to the stages stipulated in the agreement frees Israel from its "splendid" isolation in the region and in the world. I have no doubt that countries in Europe and in other parts of the world will regard us as something less of a pariah after As-Sadat comes to be linked with us. The friendship with the United States will undoubtedly be cemented even more.

As for the settlements, we are indeed forced to cut out our very flesh by having to evacuate settlements in the Rafah approaches, but we are opening for ourselves an understanding, which is also accepted by the United States, that we are increasing our settlements in Judaea, Samaria and in the Gaza Strip. If this is not with full U.S. backing, then, at least, it will be with their tacit consent. This is a most important achievement concerning the establishment of settlements in the future.

Certainly, if indeed we reach a peace treaty with Egypt, our life in the State of Israel will undergo a revolutionary change. All the domestic problems and all the issues linked with immigration, the economy and so forth will change because of the circumstances. We have to set up teams to plan and prepare for peace where those issues are concerned. Here I see a very important role for religious Jewry, for the chief rabbinate, who will have to consider, study and evaluate the coming spiritual developments. There are risks that have to be prepared for, but there are also prospects that have to be utilized. We, as the National Religious Party, shall be performing a most central role in all those issues.

I hope that on the one hand the enthusiasm about peace will not leave us bereft of our senses but, on the other hand, we shall not regard it, God forbid, as a disaster for us. If we prepare well and properly, we shall be able to make very extensive changes for the good of the State of Israel and of the entire Jewish nation.

JERUSALEM INTERVIEWS MK GE'ULA KOHEN

TA291910Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Excerpt] With us in the studio is MK Ge'ula Kohen. Good afternoon to you. We called you to the studio following yesterday's meeting at the Ze'ev fortress [Mezudat Ze'ev, the Herut Party headquarters in Tel Aviv] of the group of loyalists to the Herut Movement principles--this, I think is the correct terminology. However, I should first like to ask you about Minister Yiga'el Horowitz's resignation. Do you applaud this step?

[Answer] Yes, I do, and I would have congratulated Minister Landau if he, too, as well as all the Herut ministers had done so. I especially emphasize Minister Landau because I think that his abstention at the cabinet meeting now obligates him to resign.

[Question] Did you tell him that? Did you meet? Did you try to convince him?

[Answer] He is out of the country. We sent him a cable, requesting him to follow in the footsteps of Yiga'el Horowitz and resign. I think, in general, the entire cabinet should resign and turn to the country.

[Question] Fine, but for the moment the cabinet is still in office. Is there--or is there expected to be--cooperation or coordination between the loyalists to the principles of the Herut Movement and Minister Horowitz?

[Answer] Yesterday--I should like to correct you, the Mezudat Ze'ev meeting was initiated by the loyalists of the Herut Movement, but the convention was of Herut members in general, those who to date have not joined our circle....

[Question] But each one who came, the mere fact that he came said something?

[Answer] Yes. In fact, one could say about yesterday that we were Herut and whoever did not come and remained--for the time being--outside is in the circle of Begin loyalists. In fact, all those who are loyal to Begin today are merely a circle.

[Question] Do you think that you are the majority, MK Kohen, in the movement, the Herut Movement?

[Answer] Look, if Begin had gone to the center today, he would have--I am not sure--received [a majority]--and he did not come at all, because he feared that he would not receive unanimous support, and as is well known, Begin loves unanimity, but that is over and the united vote is gone. People begin to realize things and vote otherwise, all of a sudden they see that they also have a mouth and that they, too, have brains and can think. For 30 years they have almost never used them, and one man acted for them. These free people, as the prime minister always linked to call us--the Herut Movement: the free people--start to be a little free of Begin, because he became free and released himself from the movement's principles and beliefs.

[Question] But the center is still going to convene within the next few weeks?

[Answer] It must convene.

[Question] Yes. Will you actively try to oust [Begin] from the Herut Movement?

[Answer] Yes. That is, the goal of all those members of the loyalists of the Herut Movement--I cannot speak on behalf of all the members who opposed, but it of course encouraged me to see that there were others and I was not the solitary one in the extreme, there are very honorable men who joined. I hope that there will be a practical interpretation to their abstention and opposition. However, I cannot speak for them. I intend to meet with them, all of them together or each one individually, and to try to translate the abstention or the vote against into a political expression.

[Question] Who, today, is your candidate for premier?

[Answer] Look, the truth is, anyone who says the truth and would say it as he wants me to know it, so that I know who I am facing, what I am facing and fighting. When I proposed Arye Eli'av for prime minister in an interjection, I did not want to tell a lie. I said that today the prime minister is not only wrong, but he also deceives. I think that Arye Eli'av is very wrong in his political concept--I will fight against him, struggle--but at least he would not deceive. I simply think that we must do away with all the lies, and call things by their real name, and then know where the people of Israel stand and have them decide: do they want this land--then let them fight for it; if they do not want it--then let those people say: No, we are prepared to give the land up, but let them not tell lies. As for all the other things--if he had known what he was voting for, or the majority of the Knesset members, if they only knew what they were really voting on--I do not believe he would have gotten a majority of 84 votes. It is only that everyone is deceived or wants to deceive himself a little too. That is the problem.

[Question] You have not yet answered my question, and I mean the political answer: Who is your candidate today for premier, someone who could carry out the principles which you and the loyalists of the Herut Movement will back while he is the spokesman?

[Answer] Look, it took us many years to understand that the candidate whom we trusted for years is not the right candidate. Now I need time; who that man can be. At present, the man is the reflection of his path, it is not a matter of arbitrary chance. One must think and calculate. But first of all it is necessary--as I told you--to clear the table of misleading things. In view of this, candidates will appear. The people of Israel are not helpless, they have people--many more than people think they have, even though this year attempts were made to quiet down these people--but ultimately, slowly there is a development. I am sure that even within the Alinement's camp, which voted in favor--and I am sure that it was entangled within itself because of its commitment to the wrong path it had so far pursued--that its eyes, too, will open.

[Question] Why should you not try to establish a new political movement encompassing all those who oppose the Camp David agreements, except for RAKAH--such as Gush Emunim, parts of La'am, Lehi members whose voices we heard this week and more--you say that there are all kinds of voices also within the Alinement?

[Answer] Yes, there is such a thought, to establish a joint front, and I am sure that immediately after the holiday--and this has already been discussed--there will be contacts between all these elements and perhaps--I do not know whether this front will be a party, but it would certainly be a front which will struggle and fight in order to sabotage the Camp David agreements.

Camp David agreement. I think it would also be torpedoed by itself, because it has so little basis in reality, or in truth, it is so full of cracks and breaks, little and big deceptions, that it would of itself dissolve. We have already heard today what Carter said concerning the freezing of the settlements. I do not believe a word said about the fleshing-out. This is another issue which cannot be taken seriously.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT INTERVIEWS BEGIN ON CAMP DAVID

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[Interview with Prime Minister Menahem Begin by Refa'el Bashan in the prime minister's office on 28 September 1978]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, how many hours did you sleep last night?

[Answer] About 2 hours.

[Question] Was that enough, after the stormy and lengthy Knesset debate?

[Answer] Do I look tired, Mr Bashan?

[Question] What were the most critical moments at the Camp David summit?

[Answer] There were several critical moments. One has to do with the sentence which appears in the preface to Security Council Resolution 242. It says: "The Security Council emphasizes the absolute prohibition on conquering land by war." For 4 or 5 days, not only the Egyptians but also the United States insisted that these words must be applied to all the documents which would be signed at Camp David. We objected to this completely, first of all on the basis of international law; and second, we said that this, which is a precedent, is not an integral part of the resolution itself. If indeed the Arabs and the United States think that the preface could stand alone, then it constitutes a kind of doctrine which has one meaning: a war of aggression, because if the reference is to a total prohibition on acquiring territories, it is impossible to conceive that it does not refer to a war of aggression. If this prohibition applies to all kinds of wars, including a defensive war or national defense, then the entire map of Europe should be changed. All the very far-reaching territorial changes which occurred in post-World War II Europe are a result of war. Why did those who defeated Germany acquire such vast territories from that country? Because Germany was the aggressor and other countries were on the defensive. The clear and logical conclusion from this is that territorial changes following such a war are not only permitted, but are a meritorious act. Otherwise, the result would be that the aggressor loses nothing and he is insured from all sides. If he wins, he will conquer a great deal of territory, and if he is defeated, he will be given back everything he lost. The 6-Day War was our war of defense. We had faced the danger of annihilation and the sounds of the threats by the Arab countries to throw us into the sea are still ringing in our ears. All the presidents of the United States wrote in their documents addressed to us that this was a war forced upon us and was merely a war of defense. The principle which directed us during the Camp David talks on this issue was that territorial changes are permissible. We fought unequivocally on this matter, but all this reasoning did not help us. The Egyptians and the United States were stubborn.

[Question] How did that affair end, Mr Prime Minister?

[Answer] I will tell you exactly how. One night I went for a private talk with President Carter. I told President Carter: Mr President, what are we in fact talking about at Camp David? First of all, on the Sinai, are we asking for even 1 sq km from the Sinai? You know we are not. True, we do have a problem of the settlements, but we do not demand that even 1 km of the Sinai be annexed to Israel. As for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, we propose an autonomy for 5 years, after which we whould demand an Israeli sovereignty over Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, because this is our land and we have all the right to demand sovereignty over it. In òrder to reach an agreement with Egypt, we have proposed that the question of sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria remain open, hoping that this would make the peace process easier. In simple words: With respect to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza the question of acquiring territory does not exist. Why do you and the Egyptians demand a specific commitment concerning the prohibition to acquire land? The answer is--so I told President Carter--that you want to outsmart us. We are requested on this special occasion to sign a commitment which has but one meaning: to leave the Golan Heights and to desert Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Mr President, I told him, there is no force in the world which would move us to sign such a commitment. This was the first and last time that I quoted the verse: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither." It is a fact that the entire issue of including the formula which demands a commitment from us not to acquire territories was ultimately removed. If the Egyptians and the United States had insisted that this formula be included in the Camp David agreements, the summit would have failed.

[Question] Were there other crises during the Camp David summit?

[Answer] Yes. One was when, one day, when we had almost completed the discussions. I received another Egyptian demand: they demanded that a flag of an Arab country be flown over the holy places in Jerusalem. Specifically, they told us they were referring to the Jordanian or Saudi flag. Then I explained to two friends from the U.S. delegation, whose names I shall not mention, that King Solomon built the first temple, which was destroyed by the Babylonians, after which, 70 years later, the second temple was built, but that it was destroyed by the Romans. What were we left with? The Western wall, which is holy. But the holy of holies for the people of Israel is the Temple Mount. The Moslems seized it and built two mosques there, about which we can do nothing. These are Moslem holy places, and we respect this. I told my American friends that there is an old legend which says that when the Messiah comes, a miracle will take place and the temple will be rebuilt. I clarified over and over again to the Americans that we respect the mosques, but that the Temple Mount itself belongs to the Jewish people and that flying a Moslem flag there means that we admit that it belongs to Islam, and we would never do such a thing! Apparently the Americans understood this, and one of them asked me: Maybe you have other institutions in Jerusalem, over which the flag of a Moslem country could be flown? I told my interlocutor: No, we have no institutions over which we would agree to have an Arab flag. When I told Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan all this, he laughed and said: Mr Begin, you are wrong. We do have an appropriate institution for that. What is it, I wondered? Dayan replied with humor: The Knesset building. Ultimately the whole matter was dispensed with.

The most difficult hour at the Camp David talks as far as I was concerned was on the very last day, when the United States submitted to us a really awful message, the most important words of which were: "Jerusalem is a conquered territory." Yes, this was just a few hours before the signing of the final agreement. [paragraph continues]

We told the United States that not only are we unprepared even to accept this letter, but that we would also refuse to sign any other document and that if they insist on this definition, the summit is herewith dissolved. I told the United States that we did not come to Camp David to redivide Jerusalem, but to make peace with Egypt. Ultimately, the letter was retrieved and in a letter to President Carter, I announced that Jerusalem has been and will always be one city, the eternal capital of Israel, and that it would be forever indivisible! Thank God, this serious crisis passed, too, and 3 hours later President Carter, As-Sadat and myself left by helicopter to Washington. Then President Carter telephoned former President Gerald Ford. Ford congratulated him and Carter passed the receiver to As-Sadat and to me. We, too, congratulated former President Ford and he declared that he was very happy that we reached an agreement at Camp David. Then we went to the White House, sat at the table, and all three of us signed the documents. It was a beautiful and exciting evening.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, were you really convinced that President as-Sadat really and truly wants peace?

[Answer] I have no doubt. However, he wanted peace on his own terms, which we definitely did not accept at the Camp David discussions.

[Question] During your stay at Camp David, was a special relationship established between you and President as-Sadat?

[Answer] Yes. A very good relationship was established between us. It is true that for several days we did not meet for a working meeting because there was no need for that because at that time we worked particularly with the Americans. However, we used to meet every day on the paths and greet each other heartily. I would like to mention the fact that we had lengthy talks in the presence of President Carter. During these talks, many harsh exchanges were heard, just as we had differences with the Americans. However, I must also say that during these talks President as-Sadat again called me "my friend, the prime minister" and I, of course, also spoke to him warmly and we exchanged words of understanding. When we went to Gettysburg, all three of us--that is, President Carter, As-Sadat and I--sat in the car and for nearly 2 hours talked intimately, and it was really a most pleasant conversation. I recalled memories from Russia, and they liked it very much.

[Question] What, for instance, did you tell them?

[Answer] I told them, for instance, how people in the Soviet Union interpret the notion of coexistence. They built a cage in the zoo and put there a lamb and a lion. One day, a U.S. tourist visited the zoo and asked the manager, with great amazement: How did you manage such a thing, that a lion and a lamb should live together in one cage? What is your secret? The manager replied: It is very simple. We change the lamb every day. Both of them laughed very hard and afterward I told them another joke that was very well known those days in the Soviet Union: the communists, as we all know, claim that when communism is achieved throughout the world, it will be paradise on earth. Once, when a communist activist was asked how that would in fact be felt, he replied: First of all, each citizen would have his own private plane. Then one laborer asked another: What should we do when we have our own private planes? His friend replied: Very simple: if we are in Moscow and we hear on the radio that bread is being distributed free in Kiev, then we will take our planes, fly to Kiev and will be the first in line.

[Question] Did Carter and As-Sadat also tell jokes and anecdotes?

[Answer] Yes, but I must admit that I cannot remember them now.

[Question] Does President as-Sadat have a sense of humor?

[Answer] Yes, he has a very special sense of humor. Sometimes he would simply crack one witticism after the other and laugh from the bottom of his heart at every joke and the car would actually rock from his hearty laughter.

[Question] What were your most exciting moments at Camp David?

[Answer] The two most exciting events at Camp David were, for me, the Sabbath eve meals that we conducted there together and the havdala on Saturday night. On the first Sabbath eve we invited President Carter and his wife, Secretary of State Vance and adviser Brzezinski. We all sat around one table, including the security personnel and the secretaries. It was really unforgettable. We sang songs of Zion in a foreign land and the meal took 3 hours. I gave the blessing over the wine and Eli Rubinstein gave the blessing over the bread. Of course, the food was strictly kosher. There was among us one secretary with a very pleasant voice and she was, so to speak, the leader of the entire chorus. These were really unforgettable evenings. On Saturday evening we made havdala at my place, and I explained to adviser Brzezinski the content of the hymn about Elija the Prophet who would soon bring us the Messiah, the son of David.

[Question] What did you talk about with the presidential adviser Brzezinski when you played chess?

[Answer] We did not hold any political talks during the chess game. The truth is that Brzezinski really wanted to win and defeat me, and actually I wanted it, too. My problem was that I had not played for 38 years until that game with the presidential adviser. My last game was on 20 September 1940 and my partner was Dr Yisra'el Scheib-Eldad, when all of a sudden Russian police entered my house, stopped the game and arrested me. I was 27. When they pushed me into the police car, I managed to call out to my wife through the window: "Tell Yisra'el that my position was better than his and that I admit that he won." I have not played since. Brzezinski is probably more experienced in this than I, but the fact is that I won in the first round. In the second round he won, and also in the third round. I did not like this, but I said to myself: It is better that he win over me in chess, but not in politics.

[Question] Is it true what they say that Brzezinski is hostile to us? Some people claim that one can detect a truly anti-Semitic note in his words.

[Answer] I would not say so. I do not think he ought to be called an anti-Semite. In the past, his father defended Jews in Poland and perhaps he himself learned from that that Jews always needed to be defended. However, at Camp David Brzezinski met Jews who do not seek defense.

[Question] When do you think the state of belligerency with Egypt will end?

[Answer] When we sign the peace agreement, the first clause of which says that the state of war between us and Egypt has terminated. On the day the two parties sign it, there will no longer be a state of war between us and Egypt. When I was asked at the Knesset this week, "How is this night different from all other nights?" I explained unequivocally that throughout the years we have always signed agreements of various kinds, but the state of war remained. If we sign this time, it would definitely be a peace agreement.

[Question] Do you really foresee signing a peace treaty within 3 months?

[Answer] That is how it should be. Perhaps we will sign it even within 2 months, as President as-Sadat and I promised each other.

[Question] Would we establish full diplomatic relations--on the embassy level--with Egypt immediately upon signing the peace agreement?

[Answer] Not immediately, but after we withdraw--within 3 to 6 months--to the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line.

[Question] Mr. Prime Minister, where, in your opinion, is the most appropriate place to sign the peace treaty with Egypt?

[Answer] The most appropriate place to sign the peace treaty is Jerusalem, the city of peace. However, I am ready to sign the peace treaty anywhere, wherever we decide.

[Question] You declared in Washington that one of your goals in conducting the talks with the Egyptians was to help President Carter personally. Is he obliged to you for that?

[Answer] I did not say that. I declared that we wanted the Camp David summit to succeed for Israel's sake and for the Egyptian people's sake as well as for the international prestige of the President of the United States.

[Question] Well, do you feel that President Carter is now thankful to you?

[Answer] I did not ask for any gratitude. I did my thing, and I can say that the relationship between myself and Mr Carter is good and hearty. He showered me with pleasantries at Camp David, things that would make we blush to repeat now. I have already received a very warm letter from him with respect to the results of the Knesset vote, and it includes exalted words and congratulations. I would like you to understand that this is not a personal matter. It is good for Israel that its prime minister has excellent personal relationships with the President of the United States, despite the differences between us. I admit that during the Camp David summit there were actually harsh exchanges between us, but each expressed his opinion as a free man. I am well aware of the power balance between tiny Israel and the great United States, but in my talks with President Carter I was aware of another thing which guided me all along, and that is that I must represent the Jewish people, a great people which has suffered a great deal, and that everything must be done so that it shall not suffer in the future.

[Question] Do you think that as a result of the Camp David accords, with which the United States is pleased, the United States will increase its economic aid to Israel?

[Answer] No.

[Question] Have we not recently asked for increased aid?

[Answer] We have, but the chances of receiving it are very slight. The United States has budgetary problems and a negative balance of payments. It has promised to increase the aid. If we find friends in the United States to support this, I shall be glad, but realistically speaking, I would prefer to say today that the chances for this are not good. If the United States should surprise us favorably in this respect, I would be glad to admit my error.

[Question] How much is the United States prepared to give us today?

[Answer] The reference is to $1.85 billion. I have asked for an increase of another half billion in order to procure arms, because we simply do not have the funds to finance deals we have already signed. The idea was raised that perhaps it would be preferable that we waive part of the economic aid and transfer those sums to defense deals. It seems to me that we are prepared to do so, but the issue is still under discussion.

[Question] Do you foresee an increase in immigration to Israel following the signing of the peace agreement with Egypt?

[Answer] I have no doubt about it. We shall make efforts in that respect. It is also clear to me that peace will be one of the crucial causes for the increase of immigration to Israel from the free world countries.

[Question] When do you think the negotiations concerning the future of Judaea and Samaria will begin?

[Answer] It is impossible to say. No one knows.

[Question] I have heard that there is a plan to collect funds from U.S. Jewry for investments in industry and development enterprises in Egypt.

[Answer] If a peace agreement is signed between us and normal relations are established it will bring about vast economic cooperation. Relations of mutual aid would develop between the two countries, for instance in developing water resources. Many Egyptian tourists would visit us and we would encourage and initiate the investment of U.S.-Jewish funds in Egypt.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, it sounds like a vision of paradise on earth.

[Answer] Forty years ago, who would have thought that Europe would in effect become one big country, without borders, where one can travel from one country to another without a visa? However, here I must issue a clear warning: Let us not hurry. There will be difficulties. The way is still long.

[Question] If the Syrians offer us conditions similar to those with Egypt, would you agree to enter into negotiations with Syria?

[Answer] I will not answer hypothetical questions. There is no connection and nothing can be learned from the peace agreement with Egypt with respect to the problem of Judaea and Samaria, Gaza or the Golan Heights.

[Question] If you please, Mr Prime Minister, I would like to ask you several questions on domestic affairs. Did you really intend to submit your resignation to the president this week if you did not receive a coalition majority of two-thirds at the Knesset?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. If I had found out that only the minority in the coalition supported me, I would have resigned. I announced this at the cabinet session, and not under pressure. I am not prepared to handle the affairs of the state when, on such fateful issues, I am basing myself on a limited parliamentary foundation.

[Question] What do you think about your fellow Herut members--MK's Prof Moshe Arens, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad, Ge'ula Kohen, Ehud Olmert and others, who voted against approving the agreements?

[Answer] I said they could vote as they wished and according to their consciences.

[Question] Are you angry with them?

[Answer] No! However, I do not agree with them.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, what was your feeling when MK Ge'ula Kohen addressed the Knesset and spoke strong words against you?

[Answer] I did not hear Ge'ula Kohen's words because I had purposely left the hall.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Because of the things she said 2 days before that. She used expressions which I do not approve of. Among other things, she said to me: "Do not continue to deceive the nation." Anyone who accuses me of such things--I am not obligated to listen to his words, and what he says is unimportant in my eyes.

[Question] Can one say that as a result of her personal attacks on you, MK Ge'ula Kohen is ending her political career within the Likud?

[Answer] This you should ask her!

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, ultimately you are "the landlord" in the Likud.

[Answer] This is not true! I am no landlord! I am one of the members and at the moment I am not dealing with party affairs at all because I am first and foremost busy with national affairs. Mrs Ge'ula Kohen's political career does not interest me at all.

[Question] Do you not feel a bit strange that members of the Peace Now Movement have all of a sudden become fervent followers of yours and are hailing you?

[Answer] There are many upturns in politics. Policy is a very special dish, and we have already seen throughout the history of the world that upheavals occur when opposing parties form an alinement among themselves.

[Question] Do the stormy demonstrations and the harsh words members of Gush Emunim direct against you hurt you and make you angry?

[Answer] Yes! They hurt me! I love Gush Emunim and I will continue to love them, even though there is no doubt that it is a selfless love. I am also proud of them, because they are pioneers. Their only deficiency is that they are suffereing from a messianic complex. The members of Gush Emunim think that they are the only ones who know what Eretz Yisra'el is and how to defend it. They also believe that they are the only ones who are making sacrifices for their homeland. I must admit that others who have done more and sacrificed more for Eretz Yisra'el have preceded them. This is the basic weakness of Gush Emunim. However, again, I continue to love and respect them and if they curse me--let them curse me. Certainly it hurts, but one overcomes this pain as well. I have always asked the police not to use force against Gush Emunim, but why should they come to my house at night and create scandals? What for?

[Question] There are people who claim that in the Egyptian demand that we evacuate the Rafah approaches and the Yamit District the final goal is to create a territorial link which would give the Egyptian Army free passage in the Sinai toward Gaza. What do you think about it?

[Answer] There will not be any Egyptian Army there because the area will be demilitarized and UN forces will be there. Not one Egyptian soldier will be stationed in the places from which we will withdraw. However, what seriously worries me are the Rafah approaches settlers, and especially three Betar settlements. Their members are especially close to my heart, just as their settlements are. I repeat and say that the evacuation of the settlements hurts me so much that I find it difficult to find an appropriate expression for it in a human language, but I am convinced and have no doubt that we are proceeding along the right path if we want a peace agreement and to extract Egypt from the cycle of war and to put an end to bloodshed. Of course this entire move also encompasses certain dangers, but we will find appropriate answers to them too.

[Question] If I am not mistaken, you too have a home in one of the Yamit settlements.

[Answer] No, I have no such home. When I visited Ne'ot Sinai I told the members there that after I withdraw from politics altogether, which I will do when I am 70, in 5 years, I may come to live there. I have already set a date beyond which I shall not take upon myself any national or public duty. The date is the Sabbath before the 9th of Ab [day commemorating the destruction of the temple] 1983. In intend to write a book in several volumes about my generation, "The Generation of Holocaust and Resurrection." I intend to write a book about the 6-Day War and the Yom Kippur War, and I will also prepare a book which will be called "Camp David 1978." I will start working on it after the peace treaty is signed. As you can see, my hands will really be full, if God should grant me years to live. I really wanted to write some of the books at Ne'ot Sinai.

[Question] Who will conduct the negotiations with Egypt now, the defense minister or the foreign minister?

[Answer] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will head the delegation which will leave in the next few days to conduct the negotiations with Egypt, and other ministers will be included in it as the cabinet shall decide. I assure you that it will be a very strong delegation, both in terms of its ministerial composition and of the level of its advisers.

[Question] Is it true, as the Israeli papers reported, that your wife and son pressured you not to concede at Camp David?

[Answer] These are foolish words! Did they have to pressure me? True, they knew what was going on, but to think that any member of my family would have to pressure me! Such a thing has never happened to me in my entire life.

[Question] Finally, Mr Prime Minister, what blessing would you like to convey to the people of Israel for the new year?

[Answer] I bless the people of Israel in Israel and in the diaspora and pray that, God willing, the next year will be a year of peace, and I ask you to write the word "peace" in bold letters.

MA'ARIV INTERVIEWS BEGIN ON CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

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[Interview with Prime Minister Menahem Begin by Dov Goldstein on 28 September 1978, in the prime minister's office]

[Excerpt] [Question] Among those who support the Camp David agreements, including the need to evacuate the Rafah approaches settlements, there are those who claim that "the prime minister did not have a choice and agreed to very hard terms because he could not withstand the U.S. pressure or because he feared what might happen to Israel if the summit failed and the blame for it were put on Israel." Is that true?

[Answer] No. Not true. There were no U.S. pressures. There were hard talks, certainly! But we have been accustomed to hard talks since March of this year, and both in them and during the Camp David talks we were able to say no to the United States, no to their plans, without hesitation, without fear. We are friends. We try to act like friends, to talk like friends, to persuade like friends. This is also how we acted at Camp David on important and vital questions of the first order.

As for the very decision to sign the agreements, there was no matter of pressures here, but a logical analysis of the situation. Now, as then, there is no doubt in my heart that if everything had been agreed upon at the summit--as it had been--and the summit had then been torpedoed over the issue of the settlements alone, Israel would have been in an untenable situation.

We did not tell the United States that we would remove the settlements. We fought hard for them to remain. We did not insist that we will keep them, just so as not to torpedo the summit. We chose the third way, the true, honest and courageous way: we told the United States that the issue would be handed to the Knesset for a discussion and a decision. I wanted to separate the two votes--the one on the agreements, on the frameworks for peace, and the second about the settlements. I even proposed a free vote with respect to the settlements.

I told President Carter that I could not predict the results of the vote about the settlements and that it could be possible that the decision would be made by one vote, either way.

I also told President Carter--and this I saw as the essence: Whatever the Knesset decides, we will carry out. If the Knesset members, on whom no partisan or factional discipline or obligation will be imposed, decide to retain the settlements as they are and do not agree to remove them, the settlements will remain where they are, be the other party's reaction to this decision as it may.

This is what I told President Carter, and I further explained that while in the United States there is a presidential rule, here there is a parliamentary rule. The Knesset is the supreme and sovereign institution in the country and we are its servants, not its rulers.

However, when I came home Friday afternoon, about 10 days ago, I found out that the entire press condemned the idea of separating the vote into one on the agreements and one on the settlements, and regarded this as a means for the prime minister to evade his responsibility and as clever trickery. Then I made up my mind: I thank you for the "constructive" criticism. I shall not shirk any decision, and we submitted one proposal which included both the approval of the agreements and the problem of the settlements and we took upon ourselves full responsibility for the two clauses, as a cabinet which initiated the content of the Knesset decision.

[Question] How were your positions at Camp David influenced by the strong pressures from within, like those of the Peace Now Movement, for example?

[Answer] None of these influenced me in the least! Deep inside I ignored them entirely. I respect any civilian public. I met with members of the Peace Now Movement. We spoke with mutual respect. They did not convince me and I did not convince them. They had a right to demonstrate. I did not accept their views even after their demonstrations, and I shall not accept them in the future.

Perhaps I should not be saying this last sentence now, as they--so to speak--support me. I thank them for their support. Every support is important to me. However, we have basic differences of opinion and I have no desire to blur them. This is one reason why I announced at the cabinet session on Monday last week that if it transpired at the Knesset vote that our proposal did not have a majority in the coalition, but that the cabinet's proposal would be approved thanks to my political adversaries in the Knesset--whom I respect--I would go to the president in the morning and submit my resignation. There was no need for that. The majority of the coalition supported the proposal by two-thirds: 49 for versus 19 against. That is why we can sit here, facing each other; you ask, I reply.

[Question] Even if you had resigned we could have sat here facing each other with me asking and you replying....

[Answer] Yes, yes, but I doubt it whether we would have done so....

[Question] In the same context of votes for and against: Can a cabinet minister strongly criticize a decision accepted by the cabinet against his opinion and abstain during the vote at the Knesset on that same decision?

[Answer] He may not and he is not entitled to it and he would be breaking the law. I read to the ministers the law forbidding a minister to abstain or vote against without the specific approval--and in advance--of the prime minister. There is another part to this law, which I had also read to the ministers, that if the minister does so--i.e., abstain or vote against the cabinet's proposal--it is as though he had resigned from the cabinet. The prime minister does not have to inform the president of his resignation in order for the entire cabinet to be considered as having resigned and for the prime minister to be eligible to form a new cabinet in which he would not include the minister, or ministers, who acted in contradiction to the law. However, there is yet another clause in the law: Provided that the cabinet makes a statement about this at the Knesset 2 weeks from the date of the vote. After having read the law at the cabinet session, I announced in advance that we would allow the 2 weeks permitted by the law to pass quietly, and that since we would not announce at the Knesset anything pertaining to ministers who would act against the law, the entire issue would be regarded as finished, forgotten and erased. Indeed, this is what happened.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Why what?

[Question] Why should the ministers not pay the price, if and when they act against the basic law on the cabinet?

[Answer] This is the way I work....

[Question] A prime minister who waives his honor, his honor is not waived....

[Answer] No, this is not a question of honor. This is a good way to work, believe me. There are situations in which a minister errs, makes a mistake. He must be forgiven. One must forget. This is how it should be. It is good.

[Question] You said that you have proof that the commitment you made at Camp David concerning the freezing of the settlement activity in Judaea and Samaria is only for 3 months, until the end of the negotiations with Egypt and the signing of the peace treaty. Could you, please, calm the anxious and disperse their fear that you had committed yourself not to carry out settlement activity for 5 years?

[Answer] The commitment is for 3 months and for 3 months only. I will not add anything more.

[Question] You will convince President Carter that this is indeed so?

[Answer] On this matter I am corresponding with President Carter and I will prove to him that the promise concerning refraining from settlement in Judaea and Samaria is for 3 months.

[Question] It has been reported on behalf of President Carter that during his press conference he said that no Arab leader, including As-Sadat, could agree to Arab sovereignty not being applied to East Jerusalem. Does this call for a reaction?

[Answer] One must read the original. I cannot reply to reportage. I have talked with our ambassador to Washington today and I heard an interesting thing from him: These words by President Carter, as published in the Israeli press, were not published at all in the United States.

[Question] Do you not have the feeling that you sometimes overdo it in praising President Carter, a bit more than he deserves?

[Answer] Here, here, read this letter which I received this morning from President Carter. Have you read it? Well, do you understand these warm words? He could have sufficed with a congratulation on the decision the Knesset has made, but these extravagant praises....

We had very serious talks at Camp David, but also pleasant and friendly talks, really, beyond the customary. We both talked as free men. I know, I know the differences between the superpower, the United States, and Israel. I know. However, I spoke to the President on behalf of a great nation, a very great nation, and therefore I did not hesitate to tell him what had to be said on various issues.

[Question] Are you sure, beyond any doubt, that granting autonomy to the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, free elections for an autonomous administration (which senior U.S. officials have already called: "The interim Palestinian government"), putting internal security matters in the hands of a strong police force--all this does not lead, of necessity, despite everything we believe and want, to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state?

[Answer] Not in the least, nothing of the sort. However, it is said "blessed is he who is forever apprehensive" and he who is apprehensive and derives pleasure from his fears, who am I to deprive him of his pleasures? As a Jew, I can tell you that I shall always be proud of the fact that a Jewish cabinet proposed granting autonomy to the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. A Palestinian state will not be established! Will not be established! Under no circumstances! We shall see to it. That is what the Israeli Army in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza is responsible for. Not by chance will the elected council be called an administrative council, administrative--and no more!

[Question] If it should decide and announce...

[Answer] If it should decide on and declare the establishment of a Palestinian state, it would be breaking the law and the agreement and we will not let it pass just like that, and continue as usual.

That is why all the apprehensions must be dissolved. If an Israeli citizen has these fears, they must be uprooted. It will not be established! We did not propose an autonomy out of which a Palestinian state would emerge, something which would constitute a lethal threat to the very existence of the Jewish state and bring about constant bloodshed and a full-scale war in the most difficult conditions for Israel.

All this stood before our eyes. We proposed autonomy, not sovereignty. The difference is immense and can be found in any dictionary and in any international law book. However, an intelligent person does not need books at all. He knows how great the difference is. A country has a parliament, a cabinet, an army, diplomatic relations with other countries and other distinguishing characteristics. All this cannot be given to the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, because if they had been given this, we would not only have been determining their fate and future, but also our own future--to be killed, murdered, to be engaged in war. We shall never, never agree to this!

In this we have wide international support, first and foremost in the most significant agreement of the United States that no Palestinian state would be established. This is the great difference in the situation as compared with previous years. To this one must add the clear agreement that the IDF should remain in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Both the agreement, and the presence of the IDF are important.

[Question] At Camp David you signed a document according to which Israel recognizes "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people." If these rights do not include the right to establish a Palestinian state, what are these rights?

[Answer] There was a discussion. We did not want to accept this definition. However, ultimately, one should not attribute too much importance to a definition. What are legitimate rights? Legitimate in English--it comes from the Latin "lex," that is--law. Language has developed and the "lex" (law) has become in English "legitimate", or in the Hebrew usage--legitimate. Now, what do legitimate rights mean? If it is a right--it means that it is legitimate. Can there be a right which is not legitimate? Either it is a right, in which case it is legitimate, or it is not a right, in which case it is not legitimate.

[Question] This is very, very complex, Mr Prime Minister....

[Answer] What is so complicated about this? The Americans said that it was very important for President Carter to use the term of legitimate rights, because this is what had been agreed upon between he and President as-Sadat in Aswan. After deliberations, we arrived at the conclusion that this does not entail any danger to Israel and that if someone claimed that it is written the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and that this has a meaning with respect to a Palestinian state, we would reply: If there are legitimate rights, this means that there are also illegitimate rights. We do not recognize the illegitimate rights.

True, this sounds like hair-splitting, but in these discussions this is of importance. Everyone argued over a word, a letter, a comma.

[Question] When the IDF redeploys in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, and is stationed in its camps and the military government is obliterated, who would prevent hostile organizations from carrying out terrorist activities in Israel?

[Answer] The Israeli Army will not sit in its camps, but will safeguard Israel's security. There will be negotiations to determine the duties and the missions. Our war against hostile groups and attempts to harm Israel would be based mainly on our army.

[Question] Who will make laws in Judaea and Samaria? Will Israel have a recognized right to veto laws and regulations that might be harmful to Israel?

[Answer] Everything will be determined during the negotiations. Every detail will be made completely clear.

[Question] Will the autonomy apply also to the Jewish inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria?

[Answer] No! Only the Arabs. The Jews would be subject to the Israeli law. The negotiations have not begun yet. For the time being, the other party--Jordan and the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria--are unprepared to start negotiations.

[Question] Is there any conditioning of the two framework agreements upon each other with respect to timing and duration? If in 3 months the autonomy is not completed and the administrative tools to carry it out are not planned, would this mean that the peace agreement with Egypt would not be signed on the date set?

[Answer] There is a connection, but not a conditioning. Mr as-Sadat clearly announced that if Husayn refuses to enter into the negotiations, he would act for him in the negotiations. However, first one must strive to sign the peace agreement, for which a date has been set: within 3 months.

If the arrangements with respect to the autonomy are not completed and the tools for its implementation are not set up within 3 months, Egypt has no reason to postpone the signing of the peace agreement with Israel. I have proposed to President as-Sadat to shorten the time span and I have reached the conclusion that we should strive toward signing peace within 2 months, and not 3.

[Question] What could you say to the settlers in the Jordan River Valley, in Gush 'Ezyon, on the Golan and the other regions today--those people who fear that their fate will be like that of the Rafah approaches settlers?

[Answer] First of all, if you will, I would like to address the Rafah approaches settlers through you: You must know, my friends, my brothers and my sons, that a continual struggle was fought at Camp David, day and night, so that you could remain where you are. If the decision was as it was, it was not because we admitted that you constituted the obstacle on the way to peace. I told President Carter numerous times that you were wonderful pioneers and a defense force for Israel. I did not promise anyone at Camp David that you should be removed. We have left this for the Knesset. However, we did take upon ourselves the full responsibility for the Knesset vote, because this is what we have been elected for. This is a painful decision which is aimed at insuring that there will be no more wars in Israel and that your sons, too, will not be hurt and will not fall in battle. This is the sole reason, there is no other. Continue to till the land. The cabinet will take care of you. No family will be neglected. Each family will be taken care of--if it should so desire.

Now to the inhabitants of other regions beyond the "green line." I want you to know, friends, that whoever tells you maliciously, or because he wants to deceive you or shake your nerves, that this constitutes a "precedent," does not know what he is talking about. We have clearly distinguished between the issues. There is no connection between them. We shall strengthen the existing settlements and establish additional settlements. Happy New Year to you. A peaceful year.

[Question] The reference to the Camp David agreements has revealed the laxity of the Partisan frameworks: adamant objectors of the past have stood by your side; while fervent supporters of yesterday tortured you with tongue-lashings. Do you think it appropriate now to run in new elections with a new partisan alinement?

[Answer] All my heart and soul are now given to signing the peace agreements, not to elections.

MINISTER HOROWITZ INTERVIEWED AFTER RESIGNING

TA291116Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[Excerpts] Yesterday at noon, only a few hours after the Knesset vote, Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Yiga'el Horowitz sent his resignation announcement to the prime minister. This morning, political correspondant Shalom Qital talked with Horowitz. [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Horowitz, what brought about your decision to resign?

[Answer] The Knesset decision.

[Question] The Knesset decision. But you could have imagined, immediately after the cabinet that it was very likely that the prime minister would receive a majority....

[Answer] Correct.

[Question] ...and you would remain in the minority?

[Answer] I agreed in the party--we had been asked not to vote against, that the ministers abstain, that Shostak and I abstain. The party decided against this. My conclusion to resign was personal and I did not raise it to the party.

[Question] You mention the Shostak business, that you and Minister Shostak decided to abstain and ultimately only you abstained while Shostak voted in favor. Is this the main reason that moved you to resign?

[Answer] Oh, no. Oh, no. I wanted to vote against and Shostak and I agreed to abstain together, so that I would not vote against. However, it has no relations whatsoever to Shostak.

I think that we are approaching a serious deterioration. I very much fear that the country will diminish and we will finally leave the Golan Heights. I fear a diminution in Judaea and Samaria--even after 90 days, these 3 months, and after them--I fear very, very much that we will not take serious operational steps toward extensive settlement in Judaea and Samaria. All the far-reaching concessions in the Sinai should, in fact, allow us to have a strong hold of Judaea and Samaria, but I found that this, too, had been blocked so that we will gradually diminish; the country will become dwarfed. First, a lot of money will flow--of this I am sure--and the United States will build the airfields here; a lot of money will flow, there will be employment, there will be prosperity and the feeling will be festive, as though the economy is flourishing. But it will not be our money, not from what we produce. The picture is already clear to me.

[Question] You are resigning from the cabinet. Do you also intend to withdraw from the coalition and to recommend that your colleagues withdraw from the coalition?

[Answer] This is not at all in my hands. It will be transferred to the party center. I presume. In any case, at this moment, I do not see a need to announce or declare this.

[Question] For many months now, in fact ever since you joined the cabinet, you have said several times that you have great personal confidence in Begin, even when there were crises on other issues you had a lot of faith in him. What happened this time? Are you resigning while having confidence in him or not?

[Answer] Sir, this is not a personal matter. I think that Mr Begin is an able man. He is intelligent, clever. The matter is not a personal matter.

[Question] You have already resigned once, over another issue, and retracted your resignation. What happens this time?

[Answer] Yes. If you want to understand or know, this is the same matter. It is one issue, because I maintain that it is necessary to make cuts, not to spend money extravagantly or spend money that we do not have, and to be less dependent on the United States--this is part of my overall approach. If we want to withstand the United States--and this I claimed--and if we want somehow to heal the economy, it is necessary to stop the avalanche. All those who are not prepared to stop the avalanche here and withstand the flow or the pressure will not withstand either pressure from within or from abroad.

This has been my demand, and it is part of my thoughts and theory--to stop the avalanche in Israel, to save, to spend less, to live as much as possible--even though this, too, is exaggerated--from our own produce, while the move means to live as much as possible off others and the dictate will not be long in following--it has already come. Each step will be dictated for us in every realm.

[Question] Mr Horowitz, you said that at this moment you are not prepared to say what will be the next step with respect to the coalition. Nevertheless, at the Knesset vote the fact stood out that in the entire Likud faction--in Herut and in your own movement, La'am--there were many who opposed and abstained grudgingly the cabinet's decision. Do you foresee the consolidation of any new bloc which would oppose the cabinet or criticize it in an organized manner?

[Answer] I do not know what the development will be. I presume that the most important issue--perhaps the most important one in the country's 30 years--is currently under discussion for decision. There were no issues that were more important, because the problem is not this or another territory, the problem is which country will be sovereign.

According to the peace formulation--and I say peace formulation because it is nothing more than that--Israel will become dwarfed and will be a small country. It is already run by artificial activity of commerce and tourism, and the money will not be our own and productivity will not increase. It will be largely from funds flowing in from abroad. We will live in a good feeling for a few years, but later we will find out that one day they will say: Gentlemen, you have done your business, you have fulfilled what we wanted you to do, and this channel has emptied slightly and this spring has dried up a bit--the spring of money flowing in from outside. Then we will find that we are so weak and so dependent that we will turn from the country we could have been into a dependent settlement. [end recording]

SECRETARY GENERAL OF RASTAKHIZ PARTY RESIGNS

LD010917Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0300 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] The new secretary general of the Rastakhiz Party has resigned. The Executive Board's select committee, which had been assigned to study the secretary general's report, in a meeting held yesterday evening for this purpose completed its job by confirming his report.

Mr Javad Sa'id has said in his report: Considering the liberalization and freedom of activity by political parties, the Rastakhiz Party is no longer a unique and all-embracing party. It will become another party just like any other; however, according to the party's constitution, it is a unique one, enjoying an appropriate budget provided by the government. The party can no longer use such a budget. Therefore, should the party wish to continue in operation, it must have a new constitution to work within the new framework like any other lawful party.

WARNING AGAINST MARTIAL LAW VIOLATIONS ISSUED

LD291702Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 29 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Communique No 13 by the Military Governorate of Tehran and district has been published. The text of the communique is as follows:

As the respectable residents of Tehran and district are aware, in accordance with the provisions of Article No 10 of the martial law, the holding of any meetings or associations is totally suspended during the period of martial law. However, in order to foster the comfort and welfare of the respectable people of Tehran and district, the Military Governorate of Tehran and district in previous communiques announced that it did not mind the holdings of such meetings as engagement and wedding celebrations, provided prior permission had been obtained from the Military Governorate of Tehran and that curfew hours were observed. It has been noticed recently that certain persons, without heeding the governorate's previous communiques and without obtaining the necessary permission, have held meetings or rallies, and that some have not sought prior permission for holding engagement and wedding ceremonies and funeral services. This governorate feels that this action is a violation of the ordinances and provisions of the military governorate, and that the perpetrators may be prosecuted. Furthermore, it also feels that resorting to actions contrary to martial law provisions may results in a disturbance of public calm in view of the fact that reports are in hand that a number of people intend to misuse the cooperation and solidarity of the military governorate and the good conduct so far shown. By distributing statements among the people inviting them to bring social life to a halt and by disseminating lies, they intend to confuse public opinion and to disturb the minds of the citizenry in Tehran and district-- and this issue, apart from being morally damaging, may cause appreciable material losses to those of various professions. Therefore, the military governorate must remind the people that such actions and their instigators and perpetrators are not concealed from its eyes and that it will strongly and vigorously put a stop to any violation that may disturb public calm and order. I take the opportunity to inform the respectable people of Tehran and district that they should not be swayed by the suggestions and propaganda of these individuals which are contrary to public order and at the earliest opportunity should report to the Military Governorate of Tehran and district any threat or provocation aimed at perpetrating violations.

[Signed] The military governor of Tehran and district, Gen Gholam Ali-Oveysi